

CHAPTER 2

Vs 1 “Therefore...” because Christ is superior, because of who Christ is (Hebrews chapter 1), we ought to be very careful how we live our lives, so we don’t slip.

- As we progress in our Christian life, oftentimes, we forget the things we have learned about our Savior and we begin to drift away from Him, no longer drawing nigh as we once did.
 - We trusted Him with our eternal soul when we got saved, but then we didn’t anchor ourselves to Him and allow Him to be the controlling influence in our life. It took some time.
- There are **opposing currents** which try to carry us from the Savior:
 - **Weights** (Hebrews 12:1)
 - Illness in the family, financial problems, troubles in the church, work struggles, family difficulties, physical worries, national worries, car troubles, etc.
 - These aren’t sins, but they can weigh you down and cut into your devotional time with the Lord.
 - **Besetting sins** (Hebrews 12:1). Beset: to affect, to trouble, to overcome us.
 - There are sins that we used to commit that we can “easily” commit again, even after years of being saved.
 - We need to “give the more earnest heed” to the things of Christ to avoid that slip-up.
 - **Gradual departure from godliness.**
 - We slip *little by little*, unaware that we are compromising holiness more and more *over time*, until we’ve drifted so far that we get a rude awakening.
 - We can’t simply stop and return to where we were. It will take time to get back to where we were close to the Lord and living right.
 - We’ll continue drifting in the wrong direction until we can turn things around slowly.

WHY DRIFTING FROM CHRIST IS RUIN:

1. **It is to forsake the only refuge for sinful men.**
 - There are many “ways” claiming to help you straighten out your life, but they all fail to deliver.
2. **It is to disregard the superior claims of the Lord.**
 - Drifting shows that you are losing your belief and your trust in Christ and the things of God in favor of other things, which previously held no appeal.

3. It is to resist the grace that brought us close to Him at the start.

- He sought us, we didn't seek Him (Jn 12:32, 1 Jn 4:19, Lk 19:10).
- We drift because something else is drawing us away now.

Don't risk it. Don't let the deceitfulness of your heart convince you that *"a little sin won't hurt."* It will lead you far from Christ, and it will be difficult to get back. Stay firmly anchored to Christ.

Vs 2-4 God's will (vs 4) is great salvation (vs 3).

- He prepared man to receive His great salvation by giving the Law and the accompanying punishments that come with it.
 - The law, delivered by angels (vs 2), revealed that man is incapable of delivering himself. It was our schoolmaster (Galatians 3:24) to bring us to Christ.
- Salvation comes from the word of the Lord (vs 3) and is in contrast to the Law.
- The confirmation of the Law: death (Rom 6:23, Ezek 18:20)
- The confirmation of the word of the Lord: signs, wonders, and miracles (vs 4).
 - Things pertaining to life: raising the dead, curing disease, healing the lame, etc.
 - It is great salvation:
 - Great in scope: "Preach the gospel to every creature..."
 - Great in power: it justifies, reconciles, redeems, purifies, changes men's lives and destiny.
- ***"Which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord..."***
 - Jesus brought the word of salvation at the creation (Heb 1:10, 1:3, Gen. 3:8) ***"at the first."***
 - Jesus brought the word of salvation at the beginning of His ministry on earth (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John) ***"at the first."***
 - ***"At the first,"*** (before the Law), God dealt with man through grace and faith (Heb 11:4-22).
 - The Law was added because of transgressions (Gal. 3:19), that sin might appear sin (Rom. 7:13).
 - The Law was written, not to keep, but to prove that you can't keep it.
 - God writes to the Hebrew people to help them see through the Law and enable them to see Jesus.
 - People worshipped the religion and not the God who gave the religion.