

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for October 27, 2013

Christ is Superior to the Angels
Hebrews 2:3-4

The author of the Book of Hebrews saw Christ as superior to the Old Testament prophets in Hebrews 1:1-4. The author of Hebrews saw Christ as superior to the angels in Hebrews 1:5-2:18.

The author of Hebrews explained Christ's superiority to the angels in Hebrews 1:5-14.

The author of Hebrews, quoting the Old Testament, explained that Christ alone should be considered uniquely God's Son and thus superior to all others including the angels (Hebrews 1:5).

The author of Hebrews, quoting the Old Testament, explained that because Christ was being worshipped and served by angels, He should be considered superior to all others including the angels (Hebrews 1:6-7).

The author of Hebrews, quoting the Old Testament, explained that because Christ is eternal, He should be considered superior to all others including the angels (Hebrews 1:8-12).

The author of Hebrews, quoting the Old Testament, explained that because Christ is seated at God's right hand, He is superior to all others including the angels (Hebrews 1:13-14).

After the author had explained the superiority of Christ, he then sounded a warning (Hebrews 2:1-4).

The first part of the warning is an exhortation (Hebrews 2:1). The second part of the warning is an attempt to get the readers not to minimize the threat of judgment if they ignore the exhortation (Hebrews 2:2-3).

The third part of the warning is an explanation for why it would be impossible for a professing believer to escape judgment if they ignored the exhortation, or in other words, if they neglected so great a salvation (Hebrews 2:3-4).

It would be impossible for a professing believer to escape judgment if they neglected so great a salvation because the message of salvation had been first spoken through the Lord (Hebrews 2:2-3).

It would be impossible for a professing believer to escape judgment because after the message of salvation had first been spoken through the Lord it was then confirmed by those who had heard Him (Hebrews 2:3).

Those who had heard the message of salvation from the Lord and then confirmed it would have been primarily but not exclusively the apostles (Luke 1:2).

It would be impossible for a professing believer to escape judgment if they neglected so great a salvation because God testified with them through signs wonders, miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit (Hebrews 2:4).

The word “signs” (SEMEIOSIS) focuses on the meaning of the miracle.

The word “wonders” (TERASIN) focuses on the astonishment that is produced by the miracle.

The word “miracles” (DUNAMESIN) focuses on the power displayed by the miracle.

The phrase “gifts (MERISMOIS) of the Holy Spirit” according to His own will focuses on the gracious distribution of His gifts throughout the church.

May God give us the grace not to think that we can escape judgment if we neglect so great a salvation after it was first spoken by the Lord and then confirmed to us by those who heard as God testified with them of its truthfulness through miracles