

**“The Promise: Warning #1”
Hebrews 2:1-4**

INTRODUCTION:

I. The Necessity of this Warning (v.1)

- A. Christ reigns supreme (“Therefore”)
 - 1. We are Accountable (“we must”)
 - a) He Is
 - b) We have heard
 - 2. Pay Much Closer Attention
 - a) Special emphasis (“much closer”)
 - b) Special care to give oneself over (“attention”)
 - 3. To the Gospel
 - a) The Truth (“to what”)
 - b) The Truth to be obeyed (“we have heard”)
- B. We Tend to Drift
 - 1. This word for drift means to carelessly handle something, essentially letting something slip away. Also used in reference to a leaking ship, slowly sinking, having neglected the small crack in the hull
 - 2. Without the Gospel clearly before us, carefully taught and listened to, we veer toward man-centered doctrines
 - 3. The reason moralism has become the gospel-message of the day is because we neglected the Supremacy of Christ in all matters

II. The Reason for the Warning (vv.2-4)

- A. The Message is True
 - 1. Spoken (by angels)
 - a) Speech
 - b) By Angels
 - 2. Reliable
 - a) Throughout the OT (ref. **Heb.1:5-14**)
 - b) The Law
 - 3. Realized
 - a) Administration of the Law
 - b) Coming of Christ
 - c) There is an important point here that we who teach must be careful what we teach, for what people hear is what they are responding to, either in reception or neglect
- B. Justice is Real
 - 1. The Law reveals truth and consequences
 - a) Transgression (refusal to obey known laws)
 - b) Disobedience (refusal to listen and thereby refuse to obey)
 - 2. Justice based on Righteousness
 - 3. Justice for deeds (positive or negative) -- what the action deserves
 - a) **Romans 6:23**
 - b) **Romans 7:7-24**
- C. Grace is Real
 - 1. Grace reveals the exclusivity of life through Christ alone
 - a) Cannot escape justice if we ignore the grace of God through Christ
 - b) Receiving grace understands what is deserved apart from grace

- c) Neglect
- 2. The Great Salvation
 - a) In power and scope
 - b) Recipients of this gracious favor
- 3. **Romans 8:1-8**
- D. God has a Witness
 - 1. Witness of His Holy Justice
 - 2. Witness of His Divine Mercy
 - 3. Both satisfied simultaneously
 - 4. The message evidenced in fruit-bearing lives of believers
 - 5. Essentially, all this is TRUE!

- a) Turn from trusting the world you see (repentance)
- b) Turn toward the Christ whom you do not see, but as revealed in the Scriptures, trusting Him alone to save (faith)
- 4. Keep the truth of the Gospel (persevere)

III. The Response to the Warning

- A. Neglect the Gospel
 - 1. Reject the supremacy of Christ (the gospel)
 - 2. Resist the sufficiency of Christ (the gospel applied)
- B. Embrace the Gospel
 - 1. Know the truth of the Gospel (acknowledge)
 - a) God
 - b) Man
 - c) Christ
 - d) Response
 - 2. Rest in the truth of the Gospel (confess)
 - a) Realizing sin
 - b) Contrition over sinfulness
 - c) Declaring the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ
 - 3. Obey the truth of the Gospel (repent)