The Danger of Drifting Away

Hebrews 2:1-4

Introduction

The author of Hebrews is a preacher at heart.

In chapter 2, he gives the first of five warnings to pay careful attention to what we have heard. This is a warning to pay careful attention to our faith, so that we do not drift away from Christ. There are four common ways that people drift in their faith.

I. Time.

All of us know people who were once in the church, started strong, made a profession of faith and are no longer walking with Christ.

We know from Scripture that it is possible even for Christians to lose their first love.

“Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.” Revelation 2:5

Many Aspire, Few Attain by Walter Hendrickson

It is easy to lose our passion over time.

Those who walk with God all their life are heroes in the faith.

II. Familiarity with the Truth.

This is the danger of treating sacred things as common.

In Malachi, God rebuked the priests and the people because they were treating him with contempt.

- The priests considered their work a burden.
- The people were giving God leftovers.

III. Busyness.

This is a major problem today that is hurting marriages, families and our relationship with God.
The danger is that all of our busyness, even doing good things, can keep us from following Christ.

What about you?

It’s not a new problem.

“Still others, like seed sown among the thorns, hear the word; but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desire for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.” Mark 4:18-19

IV. Carelessness.

“If you examined 100 people who had lost their faith in Christianity, I wonder how many of them would turn out to have been reasoned out of it by an honest argument. Most people do not choose to reject Christ, they just slowly drift away.” C. S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

That’s what the writer of Hebrews is concerned about.

“But how shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation?”

Conclusion

“We must pay more careful attention to what we have heard!”

This great salvation was:

- Announced by the Lord Jesus.
- Confirmed by the Apostles.
- Testified to by God himself through signs, wonders and miracles.

Consider what a great gift we have been given.

Listen to it.

Live by it.