

SUBJECT: The Book of Hebrews.

TITLE: So Great Salvation (Part 1).

PROPOSITION: To begin looking at the great salvation that we have.

OBJECTIVE: So we can come to appreciate the greatness that is in it.

INTRODUCTION:

1. Read the text.

2. Regarding the text.

(1) Paul, writing to the Hebrew Christians reminds them that Christ is the one that they are to listen to (Heb. 1:1-3).

A. Many speak of angels as though they are to be worshipped, but God did not speak to them and call them his son (Heb. 1:5,6).

B. God never said to any of the angels to sit at his right hand (Heb. 1:13).

C. They are all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who shall be heirs of salvation (Heb. 1:14).

(2) Therefore--Go back and see what it is there for, a conclusion is being drawn.

A. We need to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard (Heb. 2:1).

B. The word spoken by angels was steadfast and every transgression received a just recompense of reward (Heb. 2:2).

C. With that being the case, how shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation (Heb. 2:3)?

(3) Let us begin looking at this great salvation.

3. Reference To S.T.P.O.

DISCUSSION: OUR SALVATION IS GREAT BECAUSE--

I. Of Its Origination.

1. Paul tells us that Jesus Christ is the author and finisher of our faith (Heb. 12:1-3).

(1) Our salvation did not begin in the minds of men, but in the mind of God (Eph. 3:10, 11).

(2) Paul said he received the things he taught by revelation from Jesus Christ (Gal. 1:10-12).

(3) We don't have to worry about man's ideas because we have God's word (Jno. 17:17).

2. Jesus Christ himself has the words of life (Jno. 6:66-69).

(1) He is the way, the truth and the life (Jno. 14:6).

(2) He makes intercession for us (Heb. 7:25).

(3) Those who reject his words will be lost (Jno. 12:48).

3. Any plan of salvation that originated before Jesus was too early and any plan that originated after Jesus was too late.

II. Of Its Presentation.

1. The Hebrew writer begins presenting Jesus as being worthy of worship by the angels (Heb. 1:6).
 - (1) This means that he was higher than the angels (Phil 2:5-8).
 - (2) The world was not put in subjection to the angels (Heb. 2:5,6).
 - (3) However, he was made lower than the angels for the suffering of death (Heb. 2:7-9).
2. The entirety of the Bible has as its central theme: The salvation of man through Jesus Christ our Lord (Heb. 10:10).
 - (1) We are not saved by meritorious works (Eph. 2:8,9).
 - (2) We are not saved by works of the law of Moses (Gal. 2:16).
 - (3) We are only saved by the gospel of Christ (Rom. 1:16,17).
3. God presents his Son as the only way back to him (Mt. 17:5).

III. Of Its Propitiation.

1. The word "propitiation" comes from ἱλασμοσ which carries the meaning of "expiation and "conciliation." "expiation" means to pay the penalty for, and "conciliation" means to become friendly or agreeable."
 - (1) When our sins are forgiven they are removed and forgotten (Heb. 8:12).
 - (2) We are washed, justified, sanctified (1 Cor. 6:9-11).
 - (3) God treats us just as if we had never sinned.
2. But how do we treat each other (Mt. 6:14,15).
 - (1) We say "Well, I'll forgive you, but I'll never forget it." I'm sorry but that isn't forgiveness (Heb. 10:17).
 - (2) We say "Well I hope brother so and so gets back on his feet, but don't expect me to help him do it, not after what he did" (Lk. 15:29,30).
 - (3) We say "I'm going to watch him for a while, I'm not sure he has really changed." How would we feel if God did that to us? No we want God's absolute and unconditional forgiveness, so we have to do the same (Mt. 18:23-35).
3. Our salvation means that Christ has paid the price and that God removes the blot and never holds it against us again. He remembers it no more. We have to be able to do the same.

CONCLUSION:

SUMMARY: We have seen that our salvation is great because--

1. Of its origination.
2. Of its presentation.
3. Of its propitiation.

APPEAL: Let us learn to appreciate the greatness of our salvation and see why we cannot let it slip and neglect it.

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