



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Warning to Pay Attention

SPEAKER

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THEME Warnings in the Book of Hebrews

DATE

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MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Starting with the first of five warnings from the book of Hebrews, DSP Seng Lee exhorts us to take the Word of God seriously and pay *much closer* attention to what we have already heard from the Word. When we do not pay attention, we can miss out the most important details and the will of God in our lives. Anchoring today's sermon on Heb 2:1, DSP Seng Lee reinforces the truth that we can drift away from our faith if we do not pay *much closer* attention to what we have heard and learnt.

WHY DO WE NEED TO PAY MUCH CLOSER ATTENTION?

Elaborating on the context of today's scriptural text from Heb 2:1-4, DSP explained that the believers back then faced persecution. The extent of the difficulty caused many to consider turning back to their original religion (Judaism). Similarly, today, we are pressured to conform to the religions of our times such as secularism, materialism and 'woke' culture. May we weather through the culture today by taking heed of the warnings in Hebrews and holding on to our belief in Christ Jesus without conforming to that of the world.

1. Superior Messenger: Ultimate revelation!

In order for us to know God, we need a messenger. Exo 33:20 said that no man can see God and live. As such, we need a messenger. God's final word has already been spoken. He completed His logos in His son – Jesus.

From Heb 1:2-3, seven statements demonstrate the superiority of Jesus over the messengers/prophets.

1.	v2 whom He appointed <u>heir</u> of all things,	HEIR
2.	through whom also He <u>made the world</u> .	CREATOR
3.	v3 And He is the <u>radiance</u> of His glory	ESSENCE
4.	and the <u>exact representation</u> of His nature.	IMAGE
5.	and <u>upholds all things</u> by the word of His power.	PRESERVER
6.	When He had made <u>purification of sins</u> ,	PURIFIER
7.	He <u>sat down</u> at the right hand of the Majesty on high.	REIGNING GOD

While the prophets of old could only reveal what they had received from the Lord in many portions and in many ways, Jesus is the ultimate revelation of God. He is superior to the messengers of old. Heb 1:5-14 also establishes that Jesus is superior to the angels. Jesus has the adoration of worship from the angels. He has authority and appointment because He is appointed by God. Jesus is the ultimate messenger and revelation from God. In response to what Jesus has said in the Word, we must pay *much closer* attention.

2. Severe Consequence: When we don't.

Heb 2:1 warns us that we will drift away from the Word if we do not pay closer attention to what we have heard. When we do nothing about growing in Christ, we will backslide. While growing requires effort, drifting requires nothing at all. Heb 2:2 goes on to state that if we neglect the word from the angels, we will receive a just penalty. How much more severe would the consequence be if we neglect the Word from the supreme Messenger – Jesus? The Word of God is greater than all the voices around us. We must pay *much closer* attention to God and His Word so that we will not drift. A little drifting and a little neglect can lead us to a different destiny from that which God intends for us.

3. Sanctifying Experience: When we do.

Salvation is about experiencing heaven on earth. Our salvation is great (Heb 2:3) because it was initiated by the Father, personified by Jesus, confirmed by the disciples and validated by signs and wonders of the Holy Spirit. The salvation experience is about experiencing the transformed life. It is about having the life and living it more abundantly. In order to not neglect our great salvation, we must pay *much closer* attention to it. When we pay *much closer* attention to our salvation, we allow the Holy Spirit to guide us to think, examine and analyse from a biblical standpoint. Salvation is about saving our souls, knowing that we were destined for hell if not for the saving grace of God.

CONCLUSION

The Lord Jesus is the ultimate revelation. He is the superior messenger. What He says matters. As such, we must pay *much closer* attention to what He says. There is a severe consequence when we do not pay closer attention. To prevent ourselves from drifting away, we must pay *much closer* attention to the Word and our salvation. We can experience sanctification in our lives when we pay *much closer* attention to what Jesus has done for us through our salvation. We can experience heaven on earth when we pay *much closer* attention through our transformation. Let us draw near to God by paying *much closer* attention to Him!

QUESTIONS

1. From the sermon, how is Jesus established as the superior messenger from God? How can you pay *much closer* attention to Him and what He has said?

2. Share about what 'drifting away' means and if you have been drifting away from God in any way. What practical steps can you take to prevent yourself from drifting away from the faith?

3. Reflect on how you came to know Christ. How has today's sermon changed your perspective about your salvation? How will you translate this changed perspective into your words and actions?