

## **GOD HAS SPOKEN**

**March 18, 2018**

**Hebrews 1:1-2:4**

**“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son.” Hebrews 1:1, 2a**

Hebrews was written to demonstrate to Jewish Christians that Christ's sacrifice and priesthood are all-sufficient; that Christ fulfilled the symbolism of the Old Testament sacrifices and priesthood, thereby replacing them. It establishes this truth in order to exhort readers not to make Old Testament types and symbols the focus of their faith, but to look unto Christ alone, “the author and finisher (perfecter) of our faith” (12:2).

The writer begins by establishing the authority of this exhortation. It is no less than God Himself. In the Old Testament, God spoke by the prophets (1:1). They presented types, shadows (8:5, 10:1) and figures (9:9), but not the reality. Now, the same God has spoken by His Son (1:2), who is that reality, and who possesses all the attributes of God (1:2-14).

The things spoken by the Son are “confirmed unto us by them that heard him”—the apostles (2:3). The apostles explained Christ's accomplishment. God who spoke first through the prophets, then through Christ, also spoke through the apostles, “bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost” (2:4).

Because God has spoken by prophets, then by His Son and finally by the apostles, the writer exhorts and warns:

**1. “Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard” (2:1).**

“How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?” (2:3a)

“Harden not your hearts” (3:8)

“Take heed . . . lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God” (3:12)

“Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it” (4:1)

**2. “Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace” (4:16)**

“Let us go on unto perfection” (6:1)

“Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith” (10:22)

“Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering” (10:23)

**3. “Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us” (12:1)**