

Hebrews 2:1 – 9

New American Standard Bible 1995 (NASB1995)

?

1 For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what
2 we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it. ² For if
3 the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and
4 every transgression and disobedience received a just
5 penalty, ³ how will we escape if we neglect so great a
6 salvation? After it was at the first spoken through the
7 Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard, ⁴ God
8 also testifying with them, both by signs and wonders and
9 by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit
10 according to His own will. ⁵ For He did not subject to
11 angels the world to come, concerning which we are
12 speaking. ⁶ But one has testified somewhere, saying,

13 “What is man, that You remember him?
14 Or the son of man, that You are concerned about him?
15 ⁷ You have made him for a little while lower than the
16 angels;
17 You have crowned him with glory and honor,
18 And have appointed him over the works of Your hands;
19 ⁸ You have put all things in subjection under his feet.”
20 [Psalm 8:4-6]

21 For in subjecting all things to him, He left nothing that is
22 not subject to him. But now we do not yet see all things
23 subjected to him.

24 ⁹ But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower
25 than the angels, namely, Jesus, because of the suffering of
26 death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace
27 of God He might taste death for everyone.

Read through the passage the first time and use a question mark ? to note every place that spurs a question in your mind as you read. What questions would come to mind if you were listening to this as a sermon?

Then go back a second time and start putting your questions into specific words, such as “What does ‘this reason’ refer to?” and “How does this passage follow from that?”

Finally, read through the passage a third time looking for answers to your questions. (Only in Hebrews up through this passage – it’s too early to think of cross references!) What questions do you think might be answered in the pages of Hebrews that follow? How do you respond if you can’t find the answers to all your questions?

For more suggested methods of study: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/methodical-bible-study/>
For examples of inductive studies: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/inductive-bible-study-examples-2/>

Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

Observation (What does it say?)

What facts do you **observe** about the passage that help bring out the writer's thought process?

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose ("in order that...")?
- Are there conclusions ("Therefore...")?
- Are there explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good "headline" for the passage?

Interpretation (What does it mean?)

What questions come to mind about the facts that would help you **interpret** the meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer's thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

Application (What does it mean for me?)

What is the impact on your life? What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

**Read nothing into the Scriptures,
but draw everything from them,
and suffer nothing to remain
hidden that is really in them.
J.A. Bengel (1687-1752)**

For a much more detailed description of the methodology, see
Robert A. Traina, *Methodical Bible Study*. Wilmore, Kentucky: Asbury Theological Seminary, 1952.