

HEARING GOD

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I would like to challenge your thinking today with a concept I have been living for a number of years. Abraham, the father of our faith, kept God's charge, God's commands, God's statutes, and God's laws" (Genesis 26:5) all without ever owning or reading a bible. The answer as to how he did it is stated in the mentioned verse as "Abraham hearkened to God's voice, and kept"...Hearing the voice of God is a very real experience offered to those who have ears to hear. It is also obvious the charge, commands, statutes, and laws of God were spoken not written.

Concerning this understanding of hearing God let me direct you to the scriptures that state the obvious.

James 1:19 *Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: Swift to hear what?*

Isaiah 30:21 *And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.*

John 10:1 *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.*

2 *But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.*

3 *To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.*

4 *And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.*

5 *And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.*

It was the voice of Christ to the heart that allowed Abraham to walk in obedience and it is the voice of Christ to the heart of the 144,000 that allow them to "follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth" (Revelation 14:4).

This is what Christ was referring to when He said to the Pharisees in John 5:38-40:

38 *And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not.*

39 *Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.*

40 *And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.*

Life is not in the book. It is in the One who wrote the book. To read the book without possessing a hearing ear only leads to private interpretation.

2 Peter 1: 20 *Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.*
21 *For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.*

If the Holy Spirit moved men to write it then He must be allowed to be the One to interpret. Therefore, the conscience is a higher authority than the book! There are things the Lord will speak to the conscience that seemingly contradicts the bible but in time you will understand there was no contradiction. It was your own private interpretation of meaning that was negating the will of God.

Read the following verse carefully: Deuteronomy 30: 9 *And the LORD thy God will make thee plenteous in every work of thine hand, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy land, for good: for the LORD will again rejoice over thee for good, as he rejoiced over thy fathers:*

10 If thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which are written in this book of the law, and if thou turn unto the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul.

Let me paraphrase verse 10: Listen to the voice of God in order to keep what is written in the book!

It is evident this is what the apostle Paul was referring to in Romans 2:14 *For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:*

15 Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;

Isn't this a picture of the New Covenant as described in Hebrews 8:10 *For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people...?*

For Christ to write His law on the heart He appeals to the conscience. He is the One who comes in through the door of the heart. Everyone else comes in another way, through logic or emotion. All deception comes through logic or emotion. If we learn to develop a hearing ear we will stand before God with the only thing that matters...a clear conscience.

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