

GOD SPEAKS TO ME!

Heb.1:2; 12:25

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Idolaters serve idol gods which are nothing, do nothing, know nothing, hear nothing and speak nothing, 1Cor.8:4; 12:2; Hab.2:18; see 1Kg.18:26-39.
2. But I serve a God who is and who is the rewarder of them who diligently seek him (Heb.11:6),and who has not left himself without witness (Ac.14:17). Cf. Rom.1:19-20.
3. Also, the God I serve has spoken and still speaks.
4. Not only does he speak, but he speaks to me!
 - a. The idea that God speaks is interesting.
 - b. In fact, it is more than interesting; it is awesome!
 - c. But as awesome as is the idea, God speaks to me and he does it on a daily basis – every day.
 - d. Moreover, God will speak to you, each of you, if you will let him!
5. The burden of our present study is to explore this idea that God speaks to me daily and will do the same for you if you will let him.
6. Would you like to know **when** he speaks to me? **How** he speaks to me? **What** he says to me?
7. If so, then listen carefully as we show you the **when**, **how**, and **what** he says.

II. DISCUSSION

A. IN TIMES PAST GOD SPOKE TO MEN.

1. In the garden of Eden
 - a. God spoke to Adam, Gen.2:15-17.
 - b. God spoke to both Adam and Eve, Gen.3:6-13,16-19.
2. He spoke to Cain, Gen.4:6-15.
3. He spoke to Noah, Gen.6:13-21; 9:1-17.
4. He spoke to Abraham, Gen.12:1-3,7; 17:1-22; 22:1,2.
5. In times past at sundry times (bit by bit, in many parts) and in divers manners (various ways) God spoke to the fathers by the prophets, Heb.1:1; 1Pet.1:9-12; 2Pet.1:19-21.

6. At the baptism of Jesus God spoke to men, Mt.3:16,17; cf. Jno.1:19-36.
7. At the mount of transfiguration in the presence of Peter, James, and John, when Moses and Elias appeared unto them talking with Jesus, God spoke to them out of the cloud, Mt.17:1-5.
8. In times past God speaking to men was at times done in a somewhat direct manner, sometimes by means of an angel, sometimes by visions and by dreams, etc., sometimes by the prophets, and sometimes in an audible voice from heaven.
9. But one thing for sure whenever and however he spoke to men there was never any doubt that it was God who was speaking – no guess work!

B. HOWEVER, TODAY GOD NO LONGER SPEAKS IN THAT MANNER TO ANYONE. TODAY HE SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS SON JESUS CHRIST WHO HAS BEEN GIVEN ALL AUTHORITY IN HEAVEN AND IN EARTH, Heb.1:2. Cf. Mt.17:5; Ac.3:22,23 (Deut.18:18,19); Jno.12:48-50; Mt.28:18.

C. GOD’S ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, JESUS CHRIST, SPEAKS TO US TODAY THROUGH AND BY MEANS OF HIS CHOSEN AND COMMISSIONED APOSTLES AS THEY WERE GUIDED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT WHOM THE LORD PROMISED TO THEM.

1. Chosen, commissioned and sent forth, Mt.28:18-20; Mk.16:15,16; Lk.24:44-49; Jno.17:18; Ac.9:10-16; 26:15-18; Rom.1:1-4,14-17.
2. They were to be the Lord’s official ambassadors to bind and loose on earth what had been bound and loosed in heaven, Mt.16:19; 18:18; 2Cor.5:17-20.
3. In order to be able to perform their mission as his witnesses, they were promised and received “the promise of the Father,” “the power of the Holy Spirit from on high,” “the baptism of the Holy Spirit,” to guide them and to reveal unto them all truth and to miraculously confirm the truth of the message they preached in the Lord’s name, Lk.24:44-49; Ac.1:1-8; Jno.14:25,26; 15:26,27; 16:7,13-15; 20:19-23; Ac.2:1-4; Mk.16:15-16,19,20; Ac.2:36-38; 2Cor.12:12; 1Jno.1:1-3.
4. Even during the Limited Commission to receive his chosen apostles was to receive him, and to receive him was to receive the Father, Mt.10:40; Lk.10:16; Jno.13:20; certainly that is the case during the Great Commission as we have clearly seen.

D. HIS CHOSEN, SENT, SPIRIT EMPOWERED APOSTLES SPEAK TO US TODAY THROUGH THE WRITTEN WORD WHICH THEY RECEIVED FROM THE LORD BY MEANS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

1. Jno.17:8,18,20,21; 1Cor.2:9-13; 14:37; Gal.1:6-12; Eph.3:1-8; 2Tim.16,17.
2. This is the way and the only way the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit, or the Apostle of Jesus Christ speak to me or you or anyone in this day and time.
3. The written word is the sword of Spirit, Eph.6:17.
4. Compare the promise Jesus made to the apostles in Jno.16:7-13; 20:19-23 with its application and their use of it on Pentecost in Ac.2:36-38 in order to see how Jesus by means of the Holy Spirit **THROUGH** his apostles speaks to men today.
5. Moreover, there is no miraculous spiritual gifts operating today, 1Cor.13:8-10.

E. THUS, THROUGH THIS WRITTEN WORD I LEARN HOW GOD SPEAKS TO ME TODAY BY HIS SON, AS THE SON SPEAKS THROUGH HIS CHOSEN APOSTLES, AS THEY SPEAK THROUGH THE SPIRIT INSPIRED WORD.

1. This word received by revelation they preached and wrote down that we might read it and understand God's will for us in all areas of our life and works in serving God, Eph.3:1-5; 5:17.
2. Through this written word God speaks to me and teaches me what he wants me to know and do by three means.
 - a. By precept (express statement or command).
 - b. By approved apostolic example.
 - c. By necessary implication.
 - (1) This means of establishing Bible authority for what we are to believe, teach, and practice is illustrated by the Lord's Supper as to its **observance**; its **time of observance**; its **frequency of observance**.
 - (2) We use the same means with one another in human affairs; such as teaching and authorizing our children to act.

F. NOTE WHAT GOD SAYS TO ME ABOUT

1. What I must do to be saved from past sins, Mk.16:15,16; Ac.2:36-38; 22:16.
2. What I must do to continue in a saved condition and reach heaven, 2Pet.1:5-11; Mt.7:21-23; Heb.5:8,9, etc.
3. What I must do if and when I sin after being saved from past sins, Ac.8:19-24; 1Jno.1:9.
4. What happens to me if I practice sin after being saved, 1Jno.3:8-10.
5. False prophets and their false teaching, even false claims about God speaking to them separate and apart from the written word giving them a different message, 1Jno.4:1-6; Gal.1:6-9; 1Cor.14:37; 2Jno.9-11; Rom.16:17,18.
 - a. My father-in-law and the Mormon who said the Lord had given her a special teaching dispensation and tells her this and that.
6. What and who I am to love and to hate, Lk.10:27; Mt.10:37; Lk.14:26; 1Pet.2:17; 1Jno.4:19-5:3; 2Th.2:10-12; Psa.119:104; Prov.6:16-19.
7. Who and what must take first place in my life and where I am to place my affections, Mt.6:33; Col.3:1.
8. My associations, Psa.1:1,2; 1Cor.15:33.
9. My ability to face and to overcome temptation, 1Cor.10:12,13; Jas.1:12-15; Cf. 2Tim.3:12; Mt.5:10-12.
10. My influence upon others, Mt.5:13-16.
11. My whole life, needs, duties, hopes, etc.

III. CONCLUSION

1. It's not a question of whether or not God speaks. All agree that he does.
2. The questions are:
 - a. How does he speak to me and to you if you will let him?
 - b. Have you listened to what God has said to you ? Yes? No?
 - c. Are you listening? Yes? No? Only you and God know!
 - d. Will you listen? Yes? No? Again, only you and God know!
3. What will happen to you if you do not listen? Ac.3:22,23; Jno.12:48-50; Heb.12:25.
 - a. Williams translation: "See to it that you do not refuse to listen to Him who is speaking to you. For if they did not escape, because they refused to listen to him who warned them here on earth, how much less can we, if we reject him who is from heaven?"