HEARING GOD'S VOICE

Biblical truths about God's voice

Biblical truths about God's voice.

- God creates by speaking a word
- Genesis 1:1-3

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

Biblical truths about God's voice.

- God speaks continually
- Revelation 4:5

And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

Biblical truths about God's voice.

- ► The attributes of God's voice
- Psalm 29:3-9

The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters. The voice of the LORD is **powerful**; the voice of the LORD is **full of majesty**. The voice of the LORD **breaks the cedars**; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon. He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox. The voice of the LORD **flashes forth flames of fire**. The voice of the LORD **shakes the wilderness**; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the LORD makes the deer **give birth** and strips the forests bare, and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"

God speaks in various ways:

God's written Word

Meditation on God's Word
Obedience to the Word of God

Dreams and visions

God uses dreams and visions to speak to His people. Joseph (Genesis 37), Daniel (Daniel 7)

Consult the Holy Spirit to give you interpretation of dreams and visions.

God speaks in various ways:

► The voice of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirt is the One who guides us and gives us direction.

John 6:63 The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life.

God speaks in various ways:

► The voice of the Holy Spirit

John 14:25 – 27 AMP

"I have told you these things while I am still with you. But the Helper (Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor—Counselor, Strengthener, Standby), the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and act on My behalf], He will teach you all things. And He will help you remember everything that I have told you. Peace I leave with you; My [perfect] peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be afraid. [Let My perfect peace calm you in every circumstance and give you courage and strength for every challenge.]

Inward versus outward tone of voice.

When the Holy Spirit is at work, it is a soft inner voice.

1 Kings 19:12: And after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a still small voice.

Time to decide *versus* the tendency to hurry.

The Holy Spirit is not in a hurry (in the sense of forcing us to make hasty decisions).

Habakkuk 2:3: For the vision is yet for an appointed time; but at the end, it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

Scripture versus emotions.

The Holy Spirit talks to us through our conscience and through the Word. When the enemy uses Scripture, he corrupts it by quoting it out of context or in a distorted fashion. The enemy tries to use our emotions, personal desires, preferences and human logic to override our conscience.

Matthew 4: 3-7 And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, "'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "'He will command his angels concerning you,' and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Conviction versus accusation.

The Holy Spirit convicts us of sin. The Holy Spirit always shows us the road to salvation and deliverance from sin. He always directs us to the cross, where we find eternal deliverance. The leading of the Holy Spirit always corresponds with the Word, and the character of God, and it always brings hope and life.

John 16:8 ...when He (the Holy Spirit) comes, He will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment...

In summary

The voice of the Holy Spirit is quiet and gentle, loving and patient. It gives you enough time to consider the thoughts, words and impressions you receive. His voice provides strength and encouragement. His voice leaves you with a sense of peace, and the assurance that you are pleasing God. He never suggests anything that is unholy, unethical, morally questionable, unlike Christ or contrary to the Bible. The voice of the Holy Spirit is always considerate of others. It is always in harmony with God's wisdom and ways.

Discerning God's voice

▶ To distinguish between right and wrong, truth and lies, and to discern whether something is the will of God or not, it is important to understand the character of God's Kingdom. If you are unsure evaluate it in spiritual terms. Compare what you are experiencing /hearing with what God's Kingdom represents. You can use this filter to discern God's voice.

The Kingdom of God is a kingdom of love.

God's Kingdom requires obedience from both people and angels.

When God is at work through the Holy Spirit, all is pure, holy, clean, transparent, in the light.

The Kingdom of God is a kingdom of Truth. Jesus is the Truth and whatever comes from God is Truth.

Listening with intent

Incline my hear to hear

Isaiah 55:3

Incline your ear, and come to Me. **Hear**, and your soul shall **live**; And I will make an everlasting covenant with you— The sure mercies of David.

Jeremiah 35:15

I have also sent to you all My servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them, saying, 'Turn now everyone from his evil way, amend your doings, and do not go after other gods to serve them; then you will dwell in the land which I have given you and your fathers.' But you have not inclined your ear, nor obeyed Me.

Listening with intent

Incline my hear to hear

Proverbs 2:1-5

"My son, if you receive my words, And **treasure** my commands within you, So that you incline your ear to wisdom, And apply your heart to understanding; Yes, if you cry out for discernment, And lift up your voice for understanding, If you seek her as silver, And search for her as for hidden treasures; Then you will understand the fear of the LORD, And find the knowledge of God."

Proverbs 20:12

The hearing ear and the seeing eye, the LORD has made them both.

MENTAI AS IN HEAVEN WHAT YOU SEE H SO ON EARTH And He raised us up together with Him and made us sit down together [giving us joint seating with Him] in the heavenly sphere [by virtue of our being] in Christ REL Jesus (the Messiah, the Anointed One). (SING WHAT YOU SEE) Ephesians 2:6 (Amplified Bible)

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THY KINGDOM COME, THY WILL BE DONE IN EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN MATTHEW 6:10

Positioned to hear

Seated with Christ

... even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus

Positioned to hear

Daily I will set myself before Him

Habakkuk 2:1 I will take my stand at my watchpost and station myself on the tower, and look out to **see** what he will **say** to me, and what I will answer concerning my complaint.

▶ Revelation 1:10-13 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea." Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me...

Waiting on God

Meet with God

In waiting on God, our first priority is to meet with Him.

Waiting on God is not a passive act. It is an active waiting, filled with prayer, reading the Word, listening, discerning, evaluating, deep inner cleansing from sin and deep surrender to the King of kings.

Luke 17:7 - 8 "Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and recline at table'? Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink'?

Isaiah 30:18 Therefore the LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the LORD is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him.

Waiting on God

Practical ways to train my ear to hear

Set time aside to quietly wait on God—without your Bible, worship music, etc. It might take a while to quiet your thoughts and simply directing your inner being on God. If your thoughts wander, bring them back. If you remember something that needs your immediate attention, write it down.

Keep a journal handy and write what you hear. The words will be in line with God's written Word and the fruits of the Spirit. Are you experiencing peace, anguish, fear, joy, etc.?