Knowing God’s Voice

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John 10: 24 King James Version
23 And Jesus walked in the temple in Solomon's porch. 24 Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly.

These Jews were of the unbelieving part of the Jewish nation not of the lineage of Christ, and did not believe His Words. We know that Abraham had two children; one of Hagar an Egyptian bondservant of which Ishmael was born, and one of Sarah his wife as Isaac was born.

These were made into two blessed nations as Abraham’s seed as God kept His promise. Then when Isaac was married to Rebecca another two nations were born out of Abraham as Jacob and Esau were born as twins. All of these represent the children of God who obey or disobey His voice. Thus the whole world is divided into Gentile nations and Israelites. All Gentile nations are known as non-Jewish nations.

Those who were not born of the true seed as God had promised, are still related. But both were not chosen at that time, as one part represented bondage and the other freedom. Those representing bondage also represent the whole world in its rebellion against following, or believing that Christ is the Son of God. Those of the free, are those who choose to believe not only that Christ is “The Son of God,” but are willing to separate from sin in their life to be rid of the bondage of sin.

We cannot become “Sons of God,” unless we believe that Christ is the Son of God and we follow His way of righteousness and be set in the perfecting righteousness of His form or pattern of life set as He lived God’s Word. What is happening to Israel in feeling rejected; happens to all when they see some being blessed, while they remain feeling unblessed. Disbelief and disobedience will hold you in bondage away from truth.
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It is this bondage that Christ came to set us free as we follow Him. God’s house is not divided against itself, as it is set in His Spirit of Truth and in the way of Righteousness. Christ came to show us how to live a righteous life fulfilling God’s truth in our life, as we follow His form of righteousness set in the pattern for us to receive eternal in God.

Now through the body of Christ’s suffering for our sin, we are able to live a free life without bondage of sin, if we believe in the work He has done to represent and fulfill God’s will in the earth.

Feeling bitter and unwanted and hostile toward Christ at His entry into the wilderness where we are; there was much separation because it was spoken that the Jews were God’s chosen people.

*Deuteronomy 7:6* For *thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth.*

These were of the separated nations of Israel as it was divided into two nations. One was known as the Nation of Israel because they were Israelites born of Abraham and Sarah. The other was the lineage appointed by God born of Isaac and known as the Tribe of Judah. It was Judah that was chosen and separated as they followed willingly what God demanded.

*John 10:25* Jesus answered them, *I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me.*

The works He is referring to is following the will of God that is spoken in His Word. It is God’s voice that instructs us as we read with understanding and believe He is speaking to all, who will receive His Words. God is not speaking to just certain people; but His voice speaks unto all who will believe in His Son Jesus Christ; whom He sent unto us.
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Matthew 3:17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

God will not speak to those who do not believe.

John 10:26 But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. 27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

There is a difference in hearing and knowing, what we hear, and of what source, it comes from. We can hear many voices, but knowing the voice of God is extremely important. As we read and study His Word with a willing heart to hear and receive of Him, we see that a change must take place in our life as we live of Him. We cannot live His truth until we want to change our old habits and ways which are not of God.

In reading the New Testament of the Bible; we see there is no separation of who is spoken to, as God speaks to His creation. He directs all to open up their heart and be willing to believe in His Words and follow Him.

Matthew 4:19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

Follow means to go or come after in the same direction. To pursue as you hold to the course like following a road to get to a certain place. It was not coincidence that He called them to make them fishers of men. The fishermen puts the right bait on the hook to draw the fish to him. The fish are never hunted like land animals. Christ knew the exact words to use to capture the heart of man. No other occupation would fulfill the will of God with purpose, like a fisherman seeking souls with the Word of God presented in the right way.

Let us look at Lydia for a moment who had a good occupation but God retrained her on how to use her skills with purpose for His kingdom to win souls.
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And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

Lydia worshipped God in her heart as she heard the words that Paul spoke unto all. As she heard; it was the Lord who opened her heart. Because she was willing to hear God’s Word, which meant that she was in the right place, at the right time, to hear the right Words, that God wanted her to hear. Her heart was opened as God Himself afforded approach to her wanting to serve out of His love for all. In this approach as Paul presented the Word of God unto all; God saw in her, a will to believe and to apply what she was told unto her own life. She received the Word without detriment, which is doubt or fear that would cause the Word to be lost and unfulfilled in her life.

God provided as she yielded her life to be all about serving Him. She had her own profitable business of the material world, but she saw that she needed more of God as she believed in Him. She realized that her increase did not come from her selfish gain of the world to benefit her. She wanted to reach more to benefit other people in the right way of rightly serving the Word of God; not just peddling goods to be sold for profit.

So as her heart was opened, she did the work as unto God whom she chose to please. Lydia was a proselyte who converted to the worship of one God, as she believed the words that Paul taught. She became the first convert to Christianity in Macedonia; and in all of Europe. (New Ill. Bible Dictionary, Lydia p.781)

After conversion she was a devout Christian and a business woman who used her work to help further God’s purpose. In changing her focus from self to helping others, she was more blessed. So the more we hear God, and do His work; we will be more blessed. We cannot know God without knowing what He speaks in His Word.

As we study to show ourselves approved; it is the works that will bear witness of who we are in God.
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John 5:36 *But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me.*

If the work we do is approved or regarded of God as worthy, proper, and right; then we are pleasing and flowing in harmony with His will to be done with purpose. We cannot just throw anything together hoping God will approve our efforts. What we do must be in true form of the way He serves us in His best love and compassion based on His true Word.

Everything is based on God’s foundation of truth that He will fulfill in His time. We each must bear witness of Him in our life, as we live the Words of our Heavenly Father. His foundation of truth is presented through His Word that is already spoken for all of mankind to follow.

Those rejected have not yet learned or chosen to follow the right way of Truth to bring them into stable ground as their life is being brought into harmony with that of Christ.

When they seek Him with their whole heart, wanting to submit to the words spoken by God serving their best as they bear witness of Him, then He will open their heart to receive of Him as He did for Lydia.

2 Corinthians 13:8 *For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth.*

God is more powerful against any weapon that could be formed against Him, in Truth as He keeps His promises.

Deuteronomy 7:9 *Know therefore that the Lord thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;*

We are a part of the thousand generations whom He has promised to bless as Abrahams seed who live by faith. We learn more of Him day by day as we humbly submit to His voice in our life.

Will you be willing to hear Him today in your life as He speaks to you as a fisherman, who draws you toward the good; and not evil.
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He draws us all through His love, who are willing to follow whether Jew or Gentile into His kingdom.

Most Precious Father in Heaven,
I receive your invitation of salvation into my life this day. I surrender all unto your will through Jesus Christ, your Son, that you may cleanse my heart, mind, and soul to be used by you in your Kingdom the right way. Please help me to abide in you, as you have chosen to abide in my life to help me to fulfill all righteousness and truth of the Father’s will to be done. I accept you, Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of my life this day. In the mighty name of Jesus I pray this prayer, Amen.

(Hebrews 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.)