

“God Spoke”

Hebrews 1:1a

January 7, 2018

VIDEO 1:

“The God Who Speaks”

INTRO: Having seen that video, for starters, let me ask 5Q's

1. Do YOU believe that God spoke & **still speaks?**
2. When was the first AND last time God spoke to YOU?
3. How often do you hear God speaking to you?
4. In what ways does God usually speak to you?
5. What role do these questions/answers play in your life?

T/S: Welcome to the BRIDGE family of Christ-followers...

- 2018 will be the year of **REVERENCE**
 - W-1828: *fear mingled w/ respect & esteem*
- In **2018** we will **exemplify** Reverence to God

BIG IDEA

*God has gone to glorious, gracious & gospel lengths
so that... you will love Him & listen to Him!*

T/S: In both the year long series and this hour long sermon,
we will focus on the Word of God AND the God of the Word!

PREVIEW:

A. Series:

- a. Hebrews... “*Hold On*”
- b. Leviticus... “*BE Holy*”
- c. Amos... “*Hear Me!*”

B. Sermon:

- a. God Spoke to give us **PERSPECTIVE & PURPOSE**
- b. God Spoke to give us **PROMISE & PURITY**
- c. God Spoke to give us **PERSEVERENCE & PASSION**

“The miracle that ***defines*** us AND the mission that ***deploys*** us are BOTH found ***exclusively*** in the **message** of our MESSIAH... **Jesus the Christ!**” - JDP

TEXT: **Hebrews 1:1a**

*Long ago, at many times and in many ways, **God spoke***

VIDEO 2: *“The God Who Speaks Thru His Word”*

“Certainty about the great issues of the Christian faith & conduct is lacking all along the line. The outside observer sees us as staggering on from gimmick to gimmick and stunt to stunt like so many drunks in a fog, not knowing at all where we are or which way we should be going...”

Preaching is hazy, heads are muddled, hearts fret, doubts drain strength, and uncertainty paralyzes action. Unlike the first Christians who in 3 centuries won the Roman world, and the later Christians who pioneered the Reformation, and Puritan “Awakening,” as well as the evangelical revivals and the great missionary movements of the last century...

we lack certainty. **Why is this?**

We blame the external pressures of modern secularism but that's like Eve blaming the serpent... (This is a matter of the heart). The real truth is that we have grieved the Holy Spirit and we stand under divine judgment. For generations, our churches have suffered from a famine... our churches have suffered from not hearing the Word of God."

- J.I. Packer

TEXT: **Hebrews 1:1a**

*Long ago, at many times and in many ways, **God spoke***

I. God spoke to give us **PERSPECTIVE & PURPOSE**

“Long ago... God spoke...”

*The LORD spoke long ago... to give His people
His perspective & His purposes...*

This is the message of Hebrews = **“Hold On”**

- A. Hold On (to the WORD who IS God)
- B. Hold on (to the Word OF God)

C. Hold on to your:

- ~ **Worship** and love of Christ
- ~ **Want-to** for God's glory
- ~ **Walk** of spiritual integrity
- ~ **Work** in kingdom service
- ~ **Witness** for Christ thru Christ-likeness

VIDEO 3: *"Messiah"*

Going back to the beginnings of the Bible

1. **The Word** who IS the Creator (John 1:1)
2. **The Wow** of the creation account (**10+**)
3. **The Warmth** of truth in love in the Garden of Eden
4. **The Warfare** between the fallen & the faithful
5. **The Wrecking-ball** of deceit & discipline (flood...)
6. **The Weaving** together of a peculiar people & family
7. **The Worshippers** & their distinct worship-guidelines
8. **The Wondrous** & miraculous displays of His glory
9. **The Workers**... (Spirit-empowered, people of promise)
10. **The Way** of God (aka the biblical "invisible" Church)

II. God spoke to give us **PROMISE & PURITY**

"and many times... God spoke..."

*The LORD has spoken countless times (always)
to pass along **His promises** & press for **our purity**.*

This is the detailed message of Leviticus... “**BE Holy!**”

Leviticus 1:1-2a ***The LORD called Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting...***

Numbers 1:1 ***The LORD spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the tent of meeting...***

VIDEO 4: “*Holiness*”

Again...

The LORD has spoken countless times (always) to pass along His promises & press for our purity.

- From the Creation's inception
- Garden of Eden
- Great Flood
- Tower of Babel's dispersion
- Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob
- Moses, Aaron, & the Israelites
- Egypt, the Exodus, & inner evil
- David & the divided kingdom
- God-less perversions & godly prophets
- Dispersions & deliverance

III. God spoke to give us PERSEVERENCE & PASSION

“...in many ways God spoke...”

Blackaby's 4 Primary Ways God Speaks:

1. Word of God (light for feet, lamp for path...)
2. Prayer
3. Children of God (unsolicited)
4. Circumstances

5 Categories of God's Sovereign, Spoken-Diversity *(Miracles, Maintenance, Promises, Warning, Discipline)*

The LORD has spoken in many ways to encourage our perseverance in purity and our passion in purpose!

In many ways, this pursuit of holy justice & righteousness is the message from the prophet Amos! - ***"Hear Me!"***

VIDEO 5: "Justice & Righteousness"

Amos 1:2 (ESV)

² And Amos said: "**The LORD roars** from Zion and **utters his voice** from Jerusalem"

"The 12 Disciples of God's Spoken Diversity"

1. Christ's Creating of **Creation**
2. Christ's **Completion**... of Creation (and **Cross**)
3. Creation's **Contrast & Corruption**
4. **Covenants & Commandments** from our King
5. **Champions** (OT Prophets / NT Ambassadors)
6. **Christ** – THE Word, whose Word, we will walk
7. Christ's **Crucifixion** (and **resurrection**)
8. Christ's **Calling** of Christian(s)
9. Community/**Koinonia** of Christians (John 17)
10. Christianity's **Commissioning & Conflict**
11. Christ's **Church** (ekklesia homothoomadon)
12. Christ's Celebration & **Coming-again**

REVIEW: *"Long ago, at many times & in many ways God spoke..."*

CLOSE: God has spoken AND He still speaks today!

- Think about it... Jesus is "The Word"
- The real question is NOT: Does God speak...
- The really relevant question is Will WE LISTEN?
- Friend... will YOU "believe & obey?"

John 3:36 says it all!

*Whoever believes (biblically) **in the Son has eternal life;**
whoever does not obey the Son will NOT see life,
but the wrath of God **remain on him.***

If that doesn't sound good to you... ask yourself WHY?

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

VIDEO 6: "My Uncomfortable Question"

(by Monet Pearson)

Please friends, don't ever forget...

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Titus 2:15

*Declare these things, exhort & rebuke with all authority.
Let no one disregard you!*

Let's Pray!