

“Holy Hearing-Aids”

1 Samuel 3:1

September 5, 2021

INTRO: **VIDEO 1:** *“The God Who Speaks 1”*

What does the world need today, more than ever?

Answer: **HOLY HEARING-AIDS!**

...to hear, heed, & herald God’s truth in love!

You can’t heed or herald what you have not heard.

Hearing God... AND Hearing FROM God is CRITICAL!

What do YOU need to know & do
when it comes to hearing from God?

Answer: I believe the LORD has given us an account of
Samuel’s life & calling to help answer that question...

PRAYER

CONTEXT:

- Series: Show & Tell = “hearing from God”
- Sermon: 1 Samuel 3 = “hearing from God”
- Scripture: **the Bible** = “hearing from God”
- Structure: tools help = “hearing from God”

BIG IDEA: God's Word, Spirit, & Family
are His holy hearing aids!

PREVIEW: (the X,Y,Z's of NOT hearing...)

- **X = X-ceptions**
- **Y = YOU-centeredness**
- **Z = ZigZaging**

TEXT:

The LORD Calls Samuel

1Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

- What does "*the boy Samuel*" point out?
- What's "*ministering to the LORD*" establish?
- What is "*the word of the LORD*"?
- What does the word "*rare*" reveal?
- What does "*in those days*" communicate?
- What does "*no frequent*" mean?
- What does the word "*vision*" indicate?

T/S: *Everything today is Compatiblistic TRUTH!*

*** **Note and beware** the two guard rails of God's Word on this topic... There are those who disregard and disrespect the Lord by saying The Holy Spirit (Who IS God) cannot and/or will not speak to (a.k.a. "intentionally direct") faithful FOLLOWERS of Christ.... And at the same time, across the path of the narrow way, there are opposite and opposing heretics who deceive and disrupt God's people by blurring and perverting God's Word and words, in part, by claiming that the Holy Spirit has said and led in ways that deny and defy His revealed Word, will, and ways. - JDP

- **REMEDY** = "We are to define and defend both sides of the narrow path's biblical guardrails, while simultaneously and individually BE-ing guided by God's Spirit within Scripture's guardrails." - JDP
- Disregard this truth = "*quench the Spirit!*" (1 Thess. 5:19)
- Consequence of "quenching the Spirit" is to stop hearing the LORD's speaking & leading.

I. No/Note **EXCEPTIONS**

1Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

- What does "*the boy Samuel*" point out?
- The unlikely pointer to the unlikely Savior!

II. No/Note YOU-centeredness

1 Now the boy *Samuel was ministering to the LORD* in the presence of Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

- What's "*ministering to the LORD*" establish?
- Right-hearted servants usually hear better...

III. No/Note ZIGZAGing

1 Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli. *And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.*

- What is "*the word of the LORD*"?

We all need to see and hear the biblical and consistent, Scripturally-supported pattern of God speaking to His people, both in the macro & micro sense... and note that the macro always came/comes thru the micro. -JDP

- Here's where the fine-tuning comes in...

VIDEO 2: *"Sinclair Ferguson: Concerned"*

- Hear his words *"cautious"* & *"difficult"*
- Notice that he did not say: *"never"* or *"always"*

VIDEO 3: *"Duplantis AND Peters"*

- Now you see & **hear the danger**...
- Yet, there is danger on both sides...

T/S: Now we understand the caution & corruption

- What does the word *"rare"* reveal?
- What does *"in those days"* communicate?

***** IMPORTANT: we need to tackle the dangers and distinctions of semantics.** The sloppy and misleading use of words... Case in point, when I/we say 'God speaks to His people' and 'Christians can & will hear from God' thru answered prayer (or any other form of communication - i.e. dreams) we could also say that 'God directs' or 'God leads' His people. **The key and defining aspect of the issue at hand is God's intentional and extra-biblical communication with His children.** - JDP

*** *So how are we to approach hearing from God?*

Blackaby's pyramid of hearing from God is a great start:

- God' Word
 - God's answering of prayer
 - God's unsolicited messengers
 - God's providential circumstances
- **Scripture** = #1 authority & #1 architect...
 - Hermeneutical/exegetical keys: **"Unpack vs. Impact"**

VIDEO 4: *"Hearing AIT – Charlie"*

*** **What does it mean to be "Spirit-led" in the context of the sovereign and supernatural plan of God???** (To say that God does not "speak" to His children is to make "Spirit-led" and answering prayer a **farse** (which is blasphemous).

*** "Pray and Obey" requires hearing and heeding God. ***

7 Barriers to Prayer/Hearing:

- Selfish motives
- **Unrepentant sin**
- Personal idols
- **Hard-heartedness**
- Unforgiveness
- **Unhealthy relationships**
- Unbelief (lukewarmness)

➤ What does “*no frequent*” mean?

*We have the **written Word** to help us better understand, know, follow, love, obey, serve, & worship the **Living Word**... His name is Jesus!* - JDP

QUOTE - Loyd Jones: “Scripture was not given to replace God’s miraculous, but rather, to affirm & confirm it!”

VIDEO 5: “*The God Who Speaks – Word*”

➤ What does the word “*vision*” indicate?

10 Ways to hear God:

- **God Self-identifies** (Apostle Paul)
- **God’s audible voice** (Moses & Samuel)
- **God’s inaudible heart-voice**
- **God’s Word**
- **God’s answer to prayer-see above**
- **God’s messengers**
- **God’s sovereign providence** (circumstantial)
- **God’s correction &/or rebuke**
- **God’s protection-intervention**
- **God’s wrath**

REVIEW:

1. Pompous, prideful, disobedience hinders hearing...
2. So does Selfish and self-serving attitudes & actions
3. Add Ignorance & Insensitivity to God's word(s)
4. Plus, Inconsistency & disinterest to God's will...
5. *"in those days"* cultural-worldliness is deafening...
6. Here, sparse spiritual hearing is to be expected.

VIDEO 6: *"One Minute Apologist"*

CLOSE:

ILLUSTRATION: **Steve Lyons** vs. Justin Peters

*Christ in us and us in Christ,
coupled with the promised presence and power
of His Spirit, enable & ensure that
the Christian and The Church CAN hear Christ!*

PRAYER

WORSHIP:

*Word of God Speak
Good To Know
How He Loves Us*