

**Jeremiah 7:21-23**

**Psalms 119:9,11,18,32, 128, 161**

**Acts 10:4-23**

**A Quick Review:**

- Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of Christ. **Romans 10:17**
- “Listen to and obey My voice. **Jeremiah 7:21-23**
- Jesus is our Shepherd, He calls His sheep by name and they follow Him because they know His voice. (See **John 10:2-5**)
- The accuser of the brethren works to confuse and obscure the Lord’s word to us.
  - The enemy is quick to thwart the word to us with damning, condemning accusations that are aimed at us ‘doubling down’ and enforcing stricter regulatory restraints on our behavior rather than walk in the condemnation free life of victory in Jesus.
- God wants to speak to us to build a relationship with us and to provide guidance for us. We need to ‘practice’ His presence, value knowing Him, and treasure His speaking to us.
- Two important hearing aids

4The Lord GOD has given Me the tongue of disciples, that I may know how to sustain the weary one with a word. He awakens *Me* morning by morning, He awakens My ear to listen as a disciple. 5The Lord GOD has opened My ear; and I was not disobedient nor did I turn back.

6I gave My back to those who strike *Me*, and My cheeks to those who pluck out the beard;

I did not cover My face from humiliation and spitting. **Isaiah 50:4-6 NASB**

- An appointment to meet with Him.

9And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, 10so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ; 11having

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been filled with the fruit of righteousness which *comes* through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. **Philippians 1:9-11 NASB**

- A 'love that sees' and a heart that obeys...choosing the things that are excellent...an attitude to obey.
- How does God speak to us??
  - He speaks to us through the Word. (Examples from **Psalms 119 NASB**)

9How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping *it* according to Your word.

10With all my heart I have sought You; do not let me wander from Your commandments.

11Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You.

18Open my eyes, that I may behold wonderful things from Your law.

32I shall run the way of Your commandments, for You will enlarge my heart.

90Your faithfulness *continues* throughout all generations; You established the earth, and it stands.

128Therefore I esteem right all *Your* precepts concerning everything, I hate every false way.

161Princes persecute me without cause, but my heart stands in awe of Your words.

- God speaks to us by wise counsel.

15The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man is he who listens to counsel. **Proverbs 12:15 NASB**

28The heart of the righteous ponders how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things. **Proverbs 15:28 NASB**

6For by wise guidance you will wage war, and in abundance of counselors there is victory. **Proverbs 24:6 NASB**

- God speaks to us via revelatory teaching.

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14The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life, to turn aside from the snares of death. **Proverbs 13:14 NASB**

6But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking in tongues, what will I profit you unless I speak to you either by way of revelation or of knowledge or of prophecy or of teaching? **I Corinthians 14:6 NASB**

26What is *the outcome* then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification. **I Corinthians 14:26 NASB**

13 And we also [especially] thank God continually for this, that when you received the message of God [which you heard] from us, you welcomed it not as the word of [mere] men, but as it truly is, the Word of God, which is effectually at work in you who believe [exercising its superhuman power in those who adhere to and trust in and rely on it]. **I Thessalonians 2:13 AMPC**

- God speaks through dreams, visions, trances, signs, wonders, angelic voices.

25So, when they had solemnly testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they started back to Jerusalem, and were preaching the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans. 26But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, "Get up and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a desert *road*.) 27So he got up and went; and there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure; and he had come to Jerusalem to worship, 28and he was returning and sitting in his chariot, and was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot." 30Philip ran up and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" 31And he said, "Well, how could I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. **Acts 8:25-31 NASB**

9On the next day, as they were on their way and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. 10But he became hungry and was desiring to eat; but while they were making preparations, he fell into a trance; 11and he \*saw the sky opened up, and an object like a great sheet coming

down, lowered by four corners to the ground, <sup>12</sup>and there were in it all *kinds of* four-footed animals and crawling creatures of the earth and birds of the air. <sup>13</sup>A voice came to him, “Get up, Peter, kill and eat!” <sup>14</sup>But Peter said, “By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything unholy and unclean.” <sup>15</sup>Again a voice *came* to him a second time, “What God has cleansed, no *longer* consider unholy.” <sup>16</sup>This happened three times, and immediately the object was taken up into the sky.

<sup>17</sup>Now while Peter was greatly perplexed in mind as to what the vision which he had seen might be, behold, the men who had been sent by Cornelius, having asked directions for Simon’s house, appeared at the gate; <sup>18</sup>and calling out, they were asking whether Simon, who was also called Peter, was staying there. <sup>19</sup>While Peter was reflecting on the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Behold, three men are looking for you. <sup>20</sup>But get up, go downstairs and accompany them without misgivings, for I have sent them Myself.” <sup>21</sup>Peter went down to the men and said, “Behold, I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for which you have come?” <sup>22</sup>They said, “Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous and God-fearing man well-spoken of by the entire nation of the Jews, was *divinely* directed by a holy angel to send for you *to come* to his house and hear a message from you.” <sup>23</sup>So he invited them in and gave them lodging. And on the next day he got up and went away with them, and some of the brethren from Joppa accompanied him. **Acts 10:9-23 NASB**

<sup>9</sup>A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” <sup>10</sup>When he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

<sup>11</sup>So putting out to sea from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and on the day following to Neapolis; <sup>12</sup>and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia, a *Roman* colony; and we were staying in this city for some days. <sup>13</sup>And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to a riverside, where we were supposing that there would be a place of prayer; and we sat down and began speaking to the women who had assembled.

### **First Convert in Europe**

<sup>14</sup>A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the

things spoken by Paul. 15And when she and her household had been baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

16It happened that as we were going to the place of prayer, a slave-girl having a spirit of divination met us, who was bringing her masters much profit by fortune-telling. 17Following after Paul and us, she kept crying out, saying, “These men are bond-servants of the Most High God, who are proclaiming to you the way of salvation.” 18She continued doing this for many days. But Paul was greatly annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!” And it came out at that very moment. 19But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. **Acts 16:9-19 NASB**

- God speaks through prayer and journaling.

### The Patmos Vision

9I, John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance *which are* in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. 10I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like *the sound* of a trumpet, 11saying, “Write in a book what you see, 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.”

12Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands; 13and in the middle of the lampstands *I saw* one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash. 14His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire. 15His feet *were* like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His voice *was* like the sound of many waters. 16In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.

17When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, “Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, 18and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades. 19Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the

things which are, and the things which will take place after these things. 20As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches. **Revelation 1:9-20 NASB**

- Let's give God an invitation to make us those who hear His voice.

6The LORD called yet again, "Samuel!" So, Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he answered, "I did not call, my son, lie down again." 7Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, nor had the word of the LORD yet been revealed to him. 8So the LORD called Samuel again for the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli discerned that the LORD was calling the boy. 9And Eli said to Samuel, "Go lie down, and it shall be if He calls you, that you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for Your servant is listening.'" So, Samuel went and lay down in his place. 10Then the LORD came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for Your servant is listening." **I Samuel 3:6-10 NASB**