

GOD SPEAKS TO-DAY

I.Sam.3:9.

Laurie

Have you ever thought seriously about how wonderful it is to speak? Feelings well up in you until you just have to speak. You hear such expressions as this, "I just had to tell some one about it." Having the ability to speak often relieves a pressure...some burden is on you and if you are privileged to tell some one about it it does you lots of good.

There are many things that distinguish man from the lower animals. But one very noticeable thing is the ability to speak. Think what a handicap it would be if the race could not tell what it plans and thinks. This handicap is realized by the dumb such as Helen Keller. See how well she realized it and how she struggled for speech.

The importance of this faculty is being seen so clearly that more is being done to amplify it, add power to it than is being done to empower any other faculty man possesses. I only have to call your attention to the work being done by our top ranking scientists in the field of loud speakers. At times the voice of one man needs to be heard all over the world at the same time. The time will likely come when there will be enough radios and such perfection in loud speakers that one minister will be able to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ to every human being at one time.

To speak is important because it is the best way I know of one personality making a clear picture of an idea in the mind of another person. You can read an idea on the written page as for instance reading a ministers sermon. But I do not like that as much as I do to hear the man speak it.

The Movie industry had the still pictures as some of you remember...but speech means so much to the meaning of a thing that soon the Talkies came on the screen...."Speak to the people that they go forward." "Go te into all the world and preach that is speak, the Gospel to every creature."

Just think what would happen to our politicians if suddenly they became speechless. There are remarkable things that happen in regard to speech..how it may be understood in trying situations. You can visit a womans club and every woman in there will be speaking at the same time and they can come out of that meeting each woman can tell you what every other woman said. On the other hand we men (poor things) can sit in a building and hear one manspeak and we will leave the building and

not be able to tell you any thing the speaker said.

It is sad that we have so much idle talk when speech is of such vast importance. No wonder that Jesus said on one occasion.... in Matt. 5:37 "But let your communication be yea, yea, and nay nay for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil."

I had a friend who had a neighbor. This friend's wife said of the lady neighbor, "That woman tattles too much, why her tongue seems to be tied in the middle and loose at both ends." The friend said to his wife, "Dear you are mistaken there for no tongue could do the talking that tongue does if it were tied any where." Friends you may think that I am just saying this I am serious I believe that speech ought to be rationed..it is God given and all that we say should tend to glorify His name.

To speak IS important. God has always spoken to the race. He spake before man ever came into the world...hear Him as He said "Let us make man in our image." In our scripture to day you noticed that little Samuel was trying to go to sleep and some one would call him and he thought it was Eli and when he would go and ask Eli what he wanted Eli repeatedly said that he did not call. It proved to be the voice of God. God will not always be heard in language like that...It happened here because it was necessary.

Now there is some understanding of language by dumb animals as when a horse will go to the left when you say "Haw" and to the right when you say "Gee" but the best understanding is when one personality speaks to another.

With the spoken word we bring comfort one to the other. We crave to talk over our problems with on another. In these days it is felt more than at any time perhaps in history. But matters not how we crave the human word the thing craved most is a sure word from God. Can we have that word in these days? I think that we can.

*Christ in His Father & Son
Dispensations*

Let us not forget that God who is a person makes a direct impact upon human personalities. As His great personality and heart of hearts flow into our lives, as only He can do, that He speaks peace to millions of bleeding hearts over this old world to day.

God being a person with love, intelligence, and volition and supreme over every thing He has created can break through all form, custom, and invironmental influences and speak directly to the waiting heart. He did it in former times and He is the

same yesterday today and forever. And don't you ever become disturbed in thinking that He can not get a message to your heart. It may not be heard to day as by a tongue of flesh, since we have been taught for nearly twenty centuries that He is spirit and that the Holy Spirit takes of the things of God and showeth them to us. It matters not how you get it, in actual voice, the still small voice, or the quiet witnessing of the Holy Spirit.... just so that you have the assurance that something out side of you and far greater than you is assuring you.....to the point that you know the way to go.

I had a friend in seminary who was disturbed because God would not speak out in the English language and say "Milton I am listening to you." During the summer months he would go to a classroom in the Wesley Memorial Church and wait for hours for God just to say one word. After we got back in school he had become so much in doubt that he decided to leave school and was walking down the street to ask about his train schedule etc. when some thing out side of him but some how intertwined in his inmost being clearly impressed him that he was going the wrong way. He came back to my room and was the happiest person I have ever seen. He told me the story. God spoke through the Spirit there by honoring the Holy Spirit. You see when He spoke out loud was in the Fathers dispensation, He spoke out loud again in the Son dispensation as He revealed Himself through Christ. But now we are in the Spirits dispensation and the speaking is to be through the Holy Spirit.

"God is not dumb that He should speak no more.....
If thou art wondering in life's wilderness and find not God
TIS THY SOUL IS POOR

God has always spoken as it was necessary. If it were necessary to day to speak out loud He would do it and The Holy Spirit would be in accord. Back in the time of the prophets much of His speaking may not have been out loud but His word came any how.

The prophets were as sure that God spoke to them as they were of their own being. It might have been spoken out loud for in Isaiah we read, "Thine ears shall hear a word behind thee" saying "This is the way walk ye in it."

Some say that the ideas that appear to us and that appeared to the prophets of old came from the subconsciousness as a result of some hereditary tradition built in to that conscience. But we believe that it was a mighty down^{rush} from a super consciousness

its source being the very mind of Divinity. ~~The evidence is that the revelation through these great men of old and through Jesus was not an uprush but a down rush from Almighty God. If there is a God why is it that we can not believe that He comes consciously to His children?~~

~~GOD SPEAKS TO DAY... TO MEN~~ has

spoken

If He does not why then some of the greatest men of history have been seriously deluded. Why should our God delude His highest creation?

In other words we would have to say that

Jerimiah did not tell us the truth

Elijah was tragically mistaken

Amos did not know what he was talking about

Caul was suffereing a delusion.

Some one said to Martin Luther.. "What are you going to do when the state, your friends, and the church forsake you?" He replied, "I will do as I have always done throw myself into God's hands." We would have to say to him and to John Wesley, John Knox, and our mothers that they were and are a deluded set.

~~We need to create the atmosphere wherein we can say, "Speak Lord thy servant heareth instead of our usual approach, "Hear Lord thy servant speaketh."~~

If God is personal and is the father of speech then He can speak to persons. Hear Him as He says, "Behold I stand at the door and knock...if any man hear my VOICE and open the door I will come in."

False gods fade but God abides and in mans heart speaks with the clear unconquerable cry of energies and hopes that can not die.

~~The individual faces the choice between right and wrong. Something tells him to choose the right and reject the wrong...that inner voice can be none other than the voice of God.~~

When Joan of Arc interviewed King Charles she spoke of a voice she had heard. Whereupon the irritated king replied.....

"Oh your voices why do they not come to me I am king and not you.?"

She answered...:"They do come to you; but you do not hear them. When the angelus rings you cross yourself and have done with it; but if you prayed from your heart, and listened to the thrilling of the bells in the air after they stopped ringing you would hear the voices the same as I do."

Friends let us pray the prayer of the poet when he said,

" Lord speak to me that I may speak, in living echoes of Thy tone; as Thou hast sought, so let me seek Thine erring children lost and lone"

