

Hearing the Voice of God
Questions People Have About Hearing God's Voice

I. Introduction

II. Does God Speak?

- A. Psalm 115:2-7 (NAS) ²Why should the nations say, "Where, now, is their God?" ³But our God is in the heavens; He does whatever He pleases. ⁴Their idols are silver and gold, the work of man's hands. ⁵They have mouths, but they cannot speak; they have eyes, but they cannot see; ⁶they have ears, but they cannot hear; they have noses, but they cannot smell; ⁷they have hands, but they cannot feel; they have feet, but they cannot walk; they cannot make a sound with their throat.
- B. I Kings 18:20-21 (NAS)
- C. I Kings 18:22-24 (NAS)
- D. I Kings 18:25-28 (NAS)
- E. I Kings 18:29 (NAS)
- F. I Kings 18:37-39 (NAS)

III. When Does God Stop Speaking?

- A. The only time God stopped speaking in the Bible was when God brought judgment.
- B. Amos 8:11-12 (NAS) ¹¹"Behold, days are coming," declares the Lord GOD, "When I will send a famine on the land, not a famine for bread or a thirst for water, but rather for hearing the words of the LORD. ¹²People will stagger from sea to sea and from the north even to the east; they will go to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, but they will not find it."
- C. There comes a time when God says, "You're not listening, so I'm going to quit speaking to you."
- D. I Samuel 28:5-6 (NLT) ⁵When Saul saw the vast Philistine army, he became frantic with fear. ⁶He asked the LORD what he should do, but the LORD refused to answer him, either by dreams or by sacred lots or by the prophets.

IV. Why Don't We Hear God's Voice?

- A. We don't understand how God's voice comes.
 - 1. The way that God's voice actually comes is not what we expect.
 - 2. Numbers 12:6-8 (NAS) ⁶"Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, shall make Myself known to him in a vision. I shall speak with him in a dream. ⁷Not so, with My servant Moses, he is faithful in all My household; ⁸with him I speak mouth to mouth, even openly, and not in dark sayings."
 - 3. Oftentimes, we don't hear God's voice because we expect Him to speak in a different way than He is actually speaking.
- B. His message to us is oftentimes surprising.
- C. We don't believe God loves us enough to speak to us.
 - 1. John 5:19-20 (NAS) ¹⁹"Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner. ²⁰For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself is doing."
 - 2. God loves us, even with our defects!
- D. We don't slow down enough to hear His voice.
 - 1. God doesn't want activity from us! He wants relationship!

V. When Does God Speak the Most Often?

- A. In the morning
 - 1. Isaiah 50:4b (NAS) *He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear to listen as a disciple.*

2. Psalm 5:3 (NAS) *In the morning, O LORD, You will hear my voice; in the morning I will order my prayer to You and eagerly watch.*
 3. "God, what do You want to say to me?"
- B. In our pain and in our failures
1. The great painful experience of life is failure.
 2. Whatever the cause, failure, of all kinds, is one of the times you'll be able to hear God's voice the best.

VI. To Whom Does God Speak?

- A. To the obedient
1. Mark 4:25 (NLT) *"To those who listen to my teaching, more understanding will be given. But for those who are not listening, even what little understanding they have will be taken away from them."*
 2. Most of the voice of God that you hear will be God speaking to you about you!

VII. Conclusion