

God Spoke

Hebrews 1:1-4

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“For God **speaketh** once, yea twice,
yet man perceiveth it not.” - Job 33:14

God often speaks but men seldom listen.

1. Creation reveals the glory of the Lord

Psa. 19:1-3 **The heavens declare the glory of God**; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. *There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.*

Rom. 1:20 **For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen**, being understood by the things that are made, *even his eternal power and Godhead*; so that they are without excuse:

2. God also spoke through the prophets
 - a. God spoke through Noah. In the second book of Peter, Noah was called a preacher of righteousness. Yet no one listen to him.
 - b. God spoke through Moses. Though Israel listened and followed Moses, Pharaoh and many in Egypt resisted God’s messenger. They refused to listen.

When God spoke through the prophets, not all listened:

1. **King Saul failed to listen to the prophet Samuel** and lost the kingdom
2. **Ahab and Jezebel refused to listen and believe the prophet Elijah**
3. **King Ahaz and the leaders refused to listen and believe the prophet Isaiah.**
4. The **people of Jerusalem refused to listen or believe the prophet Jeremiah**
5. **The Jewish population in Babylonian refused to listen to the prophet Ezekiel.**

6. **Jesus said,**

“Matt. 23:34 ¶ Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and *some* of them ye shall kill and crucify; and *some* of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute *them* from city to city:

³⁵ That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar. . . .

³⁷ O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou* that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under *her* wings, and ye would not!

God spoke in the past, but few listened.

Hebrews 1:1 says,

“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets”

1. God spoke at various times and many different ways throughout history. We can see God’s handy work in nature. This is called natural revelation. God also spoke to us through the prophets. This is called special revelation.
2. God wants us to know Him. Therefore, God sent witnesses . . . prophets . . . so we could know Him.

Hebrews 1:2 says God

“Hath in these last days spoken unto us by *his* Son”

Do you see the flow of God’s revelation?

1. **Natural revelation** is continually before us. As more is learned, many scientists have moved to the “Intelligent Design” position. Some are even abandoning the atheistic theories and see that a greater intelligence appears to be behind creation.

Yet many still refuse to see or understand the natural revelation of God before them.

2. God also provided more information about Him in a special way. This “**special revelation**” is given so we can know Him personally.
3. Therefore, God spoke to special men who were anointed by Him . . . prophets. He revealed Himself to them in many different ways. In turn they spoke God’s message to us.
4. Their words were often verified through supernatural works – i.e. the 10 plagues, the dividing of the red sea, healings, and deliverances of all kinds.
5. Their predictive words always came to pass.
6. Yet, with all this revelation, men still did not listen.

So, in these last days God spoke again.

- a. “**Last days**” speak of God’s final revelation. This is God’s last and greatest revelation.
- b. “**Last days**” also speaks of the final period of time before the Lord brings judgment upon all men. *(The term “last days” technically refer to the period from Jesus’ resurrection until His return)*
- c. The revelation that God has given us of Himself is greater than any other time in history.

It is the revelation by, through and of His Son

7. Note the terms used in this passage
 - a. **Jesus is heir** – “the appointed heir of all things” – v. 2b
 - b. Jesus is the **Creator** – “He made the ages” – v. 2c
 - c. Jesus is the **living revelation** of God – 3a
 - i. The **Source Light** of God
 - ii. The **visible image** of the invisible God
 - d. Jesus is **the Sustainer** of all things – v. 3b
 - e. Jesus is **our Redeemer** – v. 3c
 - f. Jesus is **our Ruler** – v. 3d

8. Jesus is sent by the Father to witness to us and to provide the only way to eternal life.
9. God's creation reveals His greatness. The living testimony of His prophets and their recorded works point us to God. And finally, we have the Fathers witnesses to us via *his* Son.
 - a. He (Jesus) is the appointed heir of all things.
 - b. He (Jesus) is the Creator of all things
 - c. He (Jesus) is the Visible Living Revelation of God
 - d. He (Jesus) is the Sustainer of the Universe
 - e. And He (Jesus) is the Coming Ruler of the world.

God has in these last days made Himself known and He has not stopped there.

1. He helps us understand this marvelous revelation.

It says, when Jesus came, **He reproves the world** (to put in mind, to warn) – John 16:8-11

John 16:8 – “And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: ⁹ Of sin, because they believe not on me; ¹⁰ Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; ¹¹ Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.”

To reprove means to warn the world by placing the truth of the gospel in a clear light before all so that it is acknowledged as truth, whether or not Christ is received as Savior.

2. To those who trust Him, He provides the witness of His Spirit.

- a. The Holy Spirit indwells the believer 1 Corinthians 6:19.

“What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?”

The Holy Spirit continues to work within the believer

- b. To Teaches us John 16:12-15
- c. To Guides us – Romans 8:14

- d. To Assures us – Romans 8:16
- e. To illuminates the Word – 2 Cor. 2:12-14

God enables us to grasp and to love the revelation that is given.

- 3. So, the bottom line is this – God spoke.

He has and is revealing Himself in many ways.

Through general revelation, through His prophets and now through His Son and His Spirit.

He wants us to know Him. He wants us the have fellowship with Him. He has given us natural revelation. He has also given us the recorded words of the prophets, and best of all, we have the record of God’s Son who revealed the Father to us.

And God hasn’t ended there. It is more than just revealed truth. It is the offer of eternal life through the work of Christ.

God provided us the forgiveness of sin and eternal life through His Son’s atoning work. God is continually working in this world though His Written Word, The Work of the Holy Spirit, the Priestly work of Christ.

So how do we apply these truths for 2020

- 1. God has spoken and is still actively revealing Himself today.
 - a. It is God who took the initiative to speak
 - b. God is not hiding, rather it is our eyes that are blinded by pride, or by the things of this world, or by our fleshly desires.
 - c. God can be found

Is. 65:1 ¶ I am sought of *them that* asked not *for me*; I am **found** of *them that* sought me not: I said, Behold me, behold me, unto a nation *that* was not called by my name.

Is. 55:6 ¶ Seek ye the LORD while he may be **found**, call ye upon him while he is near:

Psa. 9:10 And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that **seek** thee.

Psa. 10:4 The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not **seek after God**: God is not in all his thoughts.

Psa. 27:4 One *thing* have I desired of the LORD, that will I **seek** after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.

Psa. 27:8 *When thou saidst*, **Seek** ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I **seek**.

We need to seek after the Lord and then listen to Him speak.

1. God has spoken and is still actively revealing Himself today.
2. Through Christ, God is able to meet all our genuine needs
 - a. If God . . . spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?
 - b. Note the one who spoke
 - i. Jesus is appointed heir of all things
 - ii. Jesus is Creator – the One who made the ages
 - iii. Jesus is the full revelation of the Father
 - i. Jesus the sustainer of all things
 - ii. Jesus is our redeemer

Have you ever wondered about the word order here in Hebrews 1:2? In this passage Jesus is referred to as the appointed heir first, and then as the Creator second. You would think that the Lord would refer to Himself as the Creator first, since the existence of all things seems to supersede being the heir. You need items to exist in order to be an heir of something.

But then consider what is happening here.

At the beginning of time Adam, the first man disobeyed God and fell from his conditionally holy state and along with this he lost his dominion over the earth.

Today, Satan, the tempter is called “the prince of the power of the air” (once in Eph. 2:2), “the prince of this world” (3xs in John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11). In other words, mankind lost his inheritance and Jesus is reclaiming it.

Jesus is our Redeemer and Restorer. He as the Last Adam, the Second Man and is the quickening spirit who gives life. Jesus breaks into His creation at the appointed time in linear history. He came to reclaim the world as the rightful heir and those that are His.

Furthermore, He is able to meet all our needs.

- He is appointed Heir of all things
- As Creator – He is the One who made the ages and is the Sustainer of all things
- As the Incarnate Word He is the Full Revelation of the Father
- As the Deliverer He is our Redeemer

Luke 11:10 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Luke 11:11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if *he ask* a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?

Luke 11:12 Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?

Luke 11:13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: **how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?**

1. God has spoken and is still actively revealing Himself today.
2. Through Christ, God is able to meet all our genuine needs
3. Christ is our intercessor
 - a. Not seen in this passage but the main point of Hebrews is that in Christ we have a high priest who is capable to hearing and lovingly dealing with our needs.

Heb. 7:24-27 – “But this *man (Jesus)*, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. ²⁵ Wherefore he is able also to save them

to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

²⁶ For such an high priest became us, *who is* holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; ²⁷ Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.

Heb. 4:14-16 – “Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* profession. ¹⁵ For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are, yet* without sin. ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne ^{of} grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

God has spoken and is actively revealing Himself today. In and through Christ, all our genuine needs are met. Christ is our intercessor and one day returning and restore all things unto the Father.

“Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. ²⁴ Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. ²⁷ For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith, all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. ²⁸ And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.” – 1 Corinthians 15:23-28