

# Perfect Silence

Sunday AM 06/13/21

## Introduction:

Watching America's Got Talent there was a moment of what is called "the perfect silence." Singer by the name of "Night Birde" took the stage. She has cancer in her lungs, spine, and liver. The crowd got quiet and still. Often on shows like this the crowd reacts showing approval or disapproval. As she started to sing the crowd was silent all the way through the song and for seconds afterward. Then it erupted with cheers, the silence during a performance has been called "the perfect silence."

### I) Perfect Silence

#### A) Silence

1. Some that is perfect, as good as it can be.
2. It is often in silence, for example, that we observe the most authentic communication taking place between people who are in love: gestures, facial expressions and body language are signs by which they reveal themselves to each other.

#### B) Power of silence

1. Silence can be a sign of disapproval, anger, it can be emotional, and a sign of approval.
2. It is a way of communicating as much as verbal and physical.

#### C) There are times when it is appropriate and times when it is not.

***Ecclesiastes 3:7 A time to tear, And a time to sew; A time to keep silence, And a time to speak;***

1. There are times when it is obviously the need for speaking.

***Jude 1:3 Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.***

2. Exposing false doctrine, saying I am sorry, I love you, etc.
3. But there are many more times to be silent.

**James 1:26** *If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless.*

## II) Times for Perfect Silence

### A) When you are tempted to contradict the word of God.

**Psalms 141:3** *Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips.*

1. The Jews took God's word and then contradicted it by their teachings.

**Matthew 15:8** *'These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. 9 And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'*

- a. Honoring their parents was contradicted by their teaching.

**Mark 7:10** *"For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.' 11 "But you say, 'If a man says to his father or mother, "Whatever profit you might have received from me is Corban"- (that is, a gift to God), 12 "then you no longer let him do anything for his father or his mother, 13 "making the word of God of no effect through your tradition which you have handed down. And many such things you do."*

- b. Loving your fellow man.

**Matthew 5:43** *"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 "But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you*

***and persecute you,***

- c. Where did the law say to “love your neighbor and hate your enemy”?
2. Often people contradict the word of God on subjects such as salvation.
    - a. What must I do to be saved? Through out the Book of Acts we read of hearing, believing, repenting, confessing Jesus as the Son of God, being baptized for the remission of sins. People contradict this by saying you don't have to do all of those things.
    - b. On the subject of Marriage/Divorce/Remarriage.

***Matthew 19:4 And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' 5 "and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? 6 "So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."*** One time I was speaking to a couple in an unscriptural marriage, another member spoke up to contradict the teaching.

**B) When God says nothing it is better to be silent.**

1. The silence of God used to affirm a change in the law.

***Hebrews 7:13 For He of whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no man has officiated at the altar. 14 For it is evident that our Lord arose from Judah, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood.***

2. God spoke of the Levitical priesthood and said nothing concerning the priesthood of Judah. That silence meant something, for Jesus, from the tribe of Judah, to be High Priest, there had to be a change of the law.
3. There are a lot of things God never said and that means something today.

- a. God never said to not sing with musical instruments.

**Ephesians 5:19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, (emphasis mine, D.T.)**

- b. God never said to not have coke and peanut butter on the Lord's Supper.

**1 Corinthians 11:24 *and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me."* 25 *In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."***

3. There are a lot of things God never said, but God did say what he wants us to do to be saved and serve Him.

**2 Peter 1:3 *as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,***

**C) When God says to be silent.**

**Habakkuk 2:20 *But the LORD is in His holy temple. Let all the earth keep silence before Him.***

1. We should not try to argue or debate God. He does not need our approval.

**Leviticus 10:1 *Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and offered profane fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them. 2 So fire went out from the LORD and devoured them, and they died before the LORD. 3 And Moses said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD spoke, saying: 'By those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy; And before all the people I must be glorified.'" So Aaron held his peace.***

2. What could Aaron say? God had spoken about the fire and the consequences of not heeding His word.

3. There are things I may not understand about why God said to do something but it is not up to me to argue with God.

a. Women preachers, elders, teachers in the church.

**1 Corinthians 14:34** *Let your women keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak; but they are to be submissive, as the law also says.*

**1 Timothy 2:11** *Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. 12 And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.*

b. We can understand what God is saying and why. Not up to us to like or dislike the word of God, just to obey.

**D) When you don't know what to say, keep silent.**

1. Silence is often golden.

**Job 13:5** *Oh, that you would be silent, And it would be your wisdom!*

**Proverbs 17:28** *Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace; When he shuts his lips, he is considered perceptive.*

2. Being a good listener has its advantages.

3. Peter is an example of someone who spoke up when it was better to be silent.

**Luke 9:33** *Then it happened, as they were parting from Him, that Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" --not knowing what he said.*

4. Being quiet is better than trying to play God. At funerals there are times it is better to be silent.

**Conclusion:**

There are times to speak up and times to be silent, may we always have the wisdom to know which is which. **Acts 8:35** *Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. 36 Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" 37 Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." 38 So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.*