

Answering The Religious Errors Of Our Family, Friends, and Neighbors 1
“God Speaks Today Apart From The Bible.”
Lesson 9

INTRO:

- A.** People making such statements are referring to the fact that God is telling them directly things He is wanting them to know.
1. In their efforts to explain they use statements like ‘God spoke to me in a still small voice’ or ‘I had a dream and God spoke to me’.
 - a. Robert Henderson appeared on The Jim Bakker Show and said: "We stood in the courts of heaven, in the council of the Lord, and in that council, God told me to make a decree out of James 1:11, which is, 'All flesh is as grass, and flower is as the glory of the grass.'
 2. Those making the claim that God speaks to them are not just preachers but the average person and the not so average person.
 - a. In a 1999 Gallup poll report, 23 percent of all Americans have heard a voice or seen a vision.
 - b. Preachers, celebrities, politicians, you name it.
- B.** Entire religious beliefs and organizations have been founded based upon the belief that God is not finished when it comes to revealing His will.
1. Joseph Smith - Mormons (Church of Jesus Christ Of The Later Day Saints) - **The Book Of Mormon** (Sometimes referred to as ‘**Another Testament Of Jesus Christ**’)
 2. Mary Baker Eddy - Christian Science - Claimed to received divine revelation.
 3. Charles T. Russell - Jehovah’s Witnesses - Claim to received divine revelations concerning the end of the world.

I. WHAT DO THE SCRIPTURES TEACH?

- A. Jesus Promised The Apostles They Would Be Guided Into All Truth. (John 16:13 - “However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”)**
1. If God is still revealing His will to people since John 14, the apostles were not guided into “**ALL**” truth.
 2. This brings us to a serious consequence: Did Jesus not know what He was talking about or did He fail to keep His promise?
- B. The Scriptures Contain All We Need.**
1. **2 Timothy 3:16-17** - “*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*”
 - a. The American Standard Version says: “...*may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work.*”
 - b. For the Scriptures to enable us to be “COMPLETE”, “THOROUGHLY EQUIPPED” for “EVERY GOOD WORK”, is sufficient proof that the Bible is all we need without God having to supply addendums or amendments that He has to reveal to certain individuals down through the ages.

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2. **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,*”
 - a. Was Peter mistaken because “*all things that pertain to life and godliness*” leaves no room for additional revelations concerning matters that pertain to living life and what constitutes godliness?
 - 1) If additional revelations are necessary, then Peter was mistaken!
3. **James 1:25** “*But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.*”
 - a. ‘Perfect’ means ‘complete’. (**Vine’s Expository Dictionary Of New Testament Words**)
 - b. How can anyone today be “*a doer of the work*” and know they will be “*blessed in what he does*” if God’s word is not perfect/complete?
 - c. If God is still revealing His will today, James was mistaken concerning a perfect/complete law of liberty in his day.
 - 1) It was yet to be some time in the future!
4. **Jude 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.*”
 - a. Once a thing has been delivered it doesn’t have to be redelivered!

C. “God...Has...Spoken...”

1. **Hebrews 1:1-2** - “**God**, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 **has** in these last days **spoken** to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;”
2. “**...By His Son,...**” **What did the Son speak?**
 - a. **John 8:26** “*I have many things to say and to judge concerning you, but **He who sent Me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I heard from Him.***”
 - 1) Who is “**HE**” and “**HIM**” that sent Jesus?
 - a) **John 5:30** “*I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of **the Father who sent Me.***”
 - b. Jesus is no longer here on earth to speak to us. He ascended back into Heaven. Acts 1:9-11

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- c. Jesus chose and taught 12 apostles and gave them the promise of the Holy Spirit to:
 - 1) bring all things to their remembrance that He has spoken to them. **John 14:26** “*But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.*”
 - 2) guide them into all truth. **John 16:12-14** “*I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.*”
- d. Note what Jesus said in His prayer to the Father. **Jn. 17:6-8** - “*I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. 7 Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. 8 For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me.*”
- e. **Hebrews 2:2-4** “*For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, 3 how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, 4 God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?*”
- d. The necessary conclusion to be reached from all this is stated by Christ Himself when He said to the apostles in Matthew 10:40 “**He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.**”
 - 1) Jesus had said to them earlier in verse 20: “**for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.**”
 - 2) God speaks to us through His Son; His Son speaks to us through the apostles, and the apostles speak to us through the written New Testament.



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CONCLUSION:

- A. The entire NT ought to be written in red because every word is the word of Christ which He received from God.
- B. On June 19, 1899, Louis Klopsch did a great disservice when in 1899 He produced his “red letter” edition of the New Testament.

QUESTIONS:

1. **We are warned not to tamper in any way with God’s Word. How do the verses below give answer to whether or not God speaks today apart from the Bible?**

- A. **1 Corinthians 4:6** - *“Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively transferred to myself and Apollos for your sakes, that you may learn in us **not to think beyond what is written**, that none of you may be puffed up on behalf of one against the other.”*

Answer:

- B. **Galatians 1:8-9** - *“But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, **if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.**”*

Answer:

- C. **2 John 9** - *“Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.”*

Answer:

- D. **Revelation 22:18-19** - *“For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: **If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.**”*

Answer:
