

## Prayer is Hearing from God

May 18, 2017

### Isaiah 30:1-3 NASB

1 "Woe to the rebellious children," declares the LORD, "**Who execute a plan, but not Mine**, And make an alliance, but not of My Spirit, In order to add sin to sin;

2 **Who proceed down to Egypt without consulting Me** [NASB - literally "*my mouth*"], To take refuge in the safety of Pharaoh And to seek shelter in the shadow of Egypt!

3 "Therefore the safety of Pharaoh will be your shame And the shelter in the shadow of Egypt, your humiliation.

### Joshua 9:14-15 NASB

14 So the men of Israel took some of their (Hivites) provisions, and **did not ask for the counsel of the LORD**.

15 Joshua made peace with them and made a covenant with them, to let them live; and the leaders of the congregation swore an oath to them.

### Isaiah 30:20-22 NASB

20 Although the Lord has given you bread of privation and water of oppression, **He, your Teacher will no longer hide Himself, but your eyes will behold your Teacher**.

21 **Your ears will hear a word behind you, "This is the way, walk in it," whenever you turn to the right or to the left**.

22 And you will defile your graven images overlaid with silver, and your molten images plated with gold. You will scatter them as an impure thing, and say to them, "Be gone!"

## HEARING GOD'S VOICE

### 1. The Word of God

#### Psalm 119:105 NASB

105 **Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path**.

#### Psalm 119:133 NASB

133 **Establish** (*kuwn - prepare, ready, provide, confirm, order, set*) **my footsteps in Your word**, and do not let any iniquity have dominion over me.

#### Psalm 119:130 NASB

130 **The unfolding** (*pethach - opening, entrance, disclosure*) **of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple**.

#### John 16:13 NASB

13 *But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth...*

**Psalm 119:59 NASB**

59 I **considered** (*chashab - think, calculate, make a judgment, account*) **my ways and turned my feet to Your testimonies.**

**Psalm 119:112 NASB**

112 I **have inclined** (*natah - turn, stretch out, bend, bow*) **my heart to perform Your statutes forever, even to the end.**

*"There are times when solitude is better than society, and silence is wiser than speech. We should be better Christians if we were more alone, waiting upon God, and gathering through meditation on His Word spiritual strength for labour in his service. We ought to muse upon the things of God, because we thus get the real nutriment out of them. . . . Why is it that some Christians, although they hear many sermons, make but slow advances in the divine life? Because they neglect their closets, and do not thoughtfully meditate on God's Word." -- Charles Spurgeon*

**2. Inner Voice**

**2 Corinthians 12:7-10 NASB**

7 Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me--to keep me from exalting myself!

8 Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me.

9 **And He has said to me,** *"My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness."* Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

10 Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

*"Lord, teach me to listen. The times are noisy and my ears are weary with the thousand raucous sounds which continuously assault them. Give me the spirit of the boy Samuel when he said to Thee, 'Speak, for thy servant heareth.' Let me hear Thee speaking in my heart. Let me get used to the sound of Thy Voice, that its tones may be familiar when the sounds of earth die away and the only sound will be the music of Thy speaking Voice. Amen." -- A.W. Tozer, The Pursuit of God*

**3. Inner Knowing**

**Mark 2:6-8 NASB**

6 But some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts,

7 "Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming; who can forgive sins but God alone?"

8 **Immediately Jesus, aware in His spirit that they were reasoning that way within themselves,** said to them, "Why are you reasoning about these things in your hearts?"

ESV *"...perceiving in His spirit..."*

NET *"...realized in His spirit..."*

**Acts 16:16-18 KJV**

16 And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

17 The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.

18 And this did she many days. But **Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.** And he came out the same hour.

**4. Inner Peace**

**2 Corinthians 2:12-13 NASB**

12 Now when I came to Troas for the gospel of Christ and when a door was opened for me in the Lord,  
13 **I had no rest for my spirit, not finding Titus my brother; but taking my leave of them, I went on to Macedonia.**

ESV "...my spirit was not at rest..."

KJV "...I had no rest in my spirit..."

RSV "...but my mind could not rest..."

**2 Corinthians 7:5-7 NASB**

5 **For even when we came into Macedonia our flesh had no rest, but we were afflicted on every side: conflicts without, fears within.**

6 **But God, who comforts the depressed, comforted us by the coming of Titus;**

7 and not only by his coming, but also by the comfort with which he was comforted in you, as he reported to us your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me; so that I rejoiced even more.

**5. The Church**

**Acts 19:28-31 NASB**

28 When they heard this and were filled with rage, they began crying out, saying, "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!"

29 The city was filled with the confusion, and they rushed with one accord into the theater, dragging along Gaius and Aristarchus, Paul's traveling companions from Macedonia.

30 **And when Paul wanted to go into the assembly, the disciples would not let him.**

31 Also some of the Asiarchs who were friends of his sent to him and **repeatedly urged him not to venture into the theater.**

**Acts 20:22-25 NASB**

22 "And now, behold, bound by the Spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there,

23 **except that the Holy Spirit solemnly testifies to me in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions await me.**

24 "But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God.  
25 "And now, behold, **I know that all of you, among whom I went about preaching the kingdom, will no longer see my face.**