

NEVER man spake like this Man

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If you will, let's turn to our text this morning and it will be found in the Gospel according to John 7:46.

46 The officers answered, Never man spake like this man.

Let us pray.

O Lord, how great thou art, how holy thou art, how good thou art to thy people. We pray, O Lord, that this hour, that thou would be pleased to let thy crumbs fall from thy table, that you would come with power, that you would differentiate this morning when your voice and the voice of the world and the voice that, Lord, would be against thee. O Lord, I pray this morning that you would speak to thy people, that you would come with power, that you would examine our souls. May this be an hour of examination by thy great Spirit. O Lord, humble us before thee and may you come mightily for the praise and glory of thee. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

The text again says, "The officers answered, Never man spake like this man." I've been led a couple of times before to speak to you up here about the necessity of hearing the voice of the Shepherd, the necessity to hear and to experience the power in the Lord speaking to you, but when this passage was given to me and this text was given to me, the more glaring thing that the Lord spoke to me in this passage was in contrast and comparison.

When these words were spoken and we're going to talk about who spoke them here in a minute, when they were spoken, there was this great truth pronounced, "Never man spake like this man," and when those words come with power to the soul of the child of God, they come with conviction, they come with power if he is pleased to bring them to our soul in power to examine us, to search our hearts. We spend a great deal of time in this life with people, we are surrounded by people whether they are our loved ones, whether we go to the workplace, whether we go to the marketplace, whether we go to school, wherever it is that we go, we're surrounded by voices and people. I wonder how many times that the Lord has brought you to compare and contrast the words that come from man and compare them to what Christ said in his word?

"Never man spake like this man," the God-man. I want to begin this morning in this passage so we can see why these words were spoken, how they were spoken and how they are relevant to you and I today. So if you will, back up with me to verse 32. Now, before this, if you look in 14 real quick it says, "Now about the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and taught. And the Jews marvelled." They marvelled at what Jesus was teaching and they said, "How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?" The logic in man says, "You know, this is the way we have decided men can get smart in this life, how they can learn about God. We have chosen this way. We sit around and we converse all the time about who God is in the temple, who the great mighty God is. This man hasn't learned these letters. This man hasn't been among our teaching. How is it he can teach the things that he's teaching?"

Now fast forward down to 32, "The Pharisees heard that the people murmured such things concerning him." Now that comes from 31, look, it says, "many of the people believed on him, and said, When Christ cometh, will he do more miracles than these which this man hath done?" They were comparing and contrasting what they had heard from the prophets, what was written in the prophets and they said, "You know, this one that's coming, this one that was supposed to be the Messiah, we were told that he would speak this way." And you and I today can pick up this Bible in front of us any day of the week, any hour, we have the freedom today in this land to do that and to pick up these words and we know what the difference between red and black is in here, the red words are the words of Christ, and we can pick them up and we can read them every day and we can search them and we can say, "What do these mean?" We know that Jesus spoke these words when he walked here on the face of the earth, but we can't make these words powerful. We can't reach into our soul and block out all of the other words that we hear in this world.

This week, once again, we heard a debate based on two candidates who got up and told us what their direction is for this nation, among other things, and we heard everyone after what they had to say tell us about what they thought they said. That's just in the political realm. We go and we take our vehicles in and we hear what man says about, "This is what will fix this." I think of Brother James a lot of times. I thought about him this week as the Lord gave me this passage, how many times he's probably taken into meetings and places all over this world listening to what people have to say to him. And I wondered, I said, "O Lord, do you send your word to him at that time?" He'd have to testify to this. To say is there a difference to what I'm hearing out there in the world to what the Lord says. Did the Lord speak to me in a contrary way that the world speaks to me.

And that's the same for you, me, anybody else in here. When we go out in there to the world and we hear when the world comes into our house when the tv is on, the radio is on, the video games are on, how does it compare what is being said there, what is being put forth as doctrine, what is being put forth as truth. When Jesus spoke to Pilate, Pilate said, "What is truth?" And Jesus said to Pilate, "My people will hear the truth." That was a promise to you and I that if we be in Christ, we will hear the truth at the very lips of our Savior. We will hear him speak to us.

So we go on. Let me not get ahead of myself. "The Pharisees heard that the people murmured such things concerning him; and the Pharisees and the chief priests sent officers to take him. Then said Jesus unto them, Yet a little while am I with you, and then I go unto him that sent me. Ye shall seek me, and shall not find me: and where I am, thither ye cannot come. Then said the Jews among themselves." Now, the officers are here listening to what Jesus had to say and they said, "Then said the Jews among themselves, Whither will he go, that we shall not find him? will he go unto the dispersed among the Gentiles, and teach the Gentiles? What manner of saying is this that he said, Ye shall seek me, and shall not find me: and where I am, thither ye cannot come? In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst," and that's a key, isn't it? "If any man thirst." Do you have a thirst to know what the words of Christ are? Is there a thirst in your soul that says, "Lord, what are you saying in this hour? What is your will?" Or how quickly we're swayed by the voices around us.

I think about this a lot because as I was younger, I remember how prevalent the voices were in my life. I had college counselors, I had friends around me, I had parents, I had acquaintances, and all of them had a direction for my life. All of them would tell me an opinion or, "This is where you should go or this is what you should do." And you children in here are going to be no different than that. You're going to be sitting in front of people all your life that are going to point you in a direction because that's what man does, they point you in directions that will be what is glorifying to man, how can you help fellow man, how will this be good for man. The question comes for the child of God: is there one in your life that has ever spoken differently than what the world speaks, what man speaks?

Jesus said, "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." Now, those are some pretty deep sayings and those officers are taking in these things and they're thinking about them and he said, "But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified. Many of the people therefore, when they heard this saying, said, Of a truth this is the Prophet. Others said, This is the Christ. But some said, Shall Christ come out of Galilee? Hath not the scripture said, That Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem." Do you see what I mean? You can look at the word, you can look what was said about the Messiah and still not understand. Very well versed in what was said.

Didn't the Scriptures say, "out of the town of Bethlehem where David was? So there was a division among the people because of him. And some of them would have taken him; but no man laid hands on him." Now, we're told earlier in this passage why? "For his hour had not come." It was not time for Christ, who is sovereign over all of man, to lay down his life.

And then our text comes. "Then came the officers to the chief priests and Pharisees; and they said unto them," the officers came back, they were sent out to do something, to arrest Christ and they came back and what did they come back with? What excuse could

they give? What reason could they give that they did not arrest Christ? And here's what they said, "Never man spake like this man."

I thought about that last week when we sat in here and the pastor was talking about the testimony of Nebuchadnezzar, a pagan king, and the Lord raised him up to speak of God's sovereignty and that there was no other God like this God. And it's no different here, that these officers could say nothing else but, "Never man spoke like this man." The Pharisees themselves, the Lord at one time rose them up to say, "This man receiveth sinners and how true that was." So when we come to a passage like this, we can't throw it out. We can't look at it and go, "Well, the words aren't red because Jesus didn't say them." We can't look at them and say, "Well, the disciples didn't say them." It doesn't change the truth but I can't make that come with power to your soul this morning.

The Lord says to his people that, "Never man, never man spake like this man." The Holy Spirit authored these words and it doesn't matter if they came from a donkey, it doesn't matter if they come from a false prophet like Balaam, it doesn't matter if they come from a pagan king like Nebuchadnezzar, it doesn't matter if it came from officers who were sent to apprehend Christ, it does not change the sovereignty and the power of the words that God gave. Asaph in Psalm 76:10 wrote, "Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee." It's an absolute surety that the wrath of man, the Lord would use the wrath of man to praise him. The very ones who came to say, "I'm going to arrest this man and take him for the chief priests and the Pharisees, because we're on their side."

But what was their testimony? And I'm going to tell you something: that kind of indicts me a little bit this morning. It kind of makes me go, "Well, the pagan people of the world can be brought to see this, those who are outside of Christ can be brought in God's sovereignty to sit and say, 'Never man spake like this man.'" Never man. That hit me hard when the Lord laid this passage upon my heart because I spend a lot of time listening and reading man. I do a lot of reading, a lot of reading, the saints of old. And the Lord examined me on that this week and took me and he revealed to me what I'm looking for. What is it that I look for when I pick up an author? What is it that I'm praying for when I pick up a book? I want to hear my Savior's voice. I want to hear what Christ's finished work has performed and done for me. Do you know why? Because, "Never man has spoken like this man," and in all the Scriptures and in all that Christ brought forward when he walked on this earth.

That's why I said we have the freedom today to pick this up anytime. The Scriptures say that, "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God," and when I think of these words and I think of how Christ, what a condescension it is for him to come down here and speak the words of life. That's what he says in John 6:63, "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." And that's what I want to ask you today and more importantly I don't ask you, I ask the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, I ask and I pray that he ask you this question today and you as you sit in that seat, you compare and contrast because the Holy Spirit comes and shines light upon what Christ has said. Is there a difference? Is there something that makes Christ's words different and

of truth? And when Christ speaks love and when Christ speaks faith and when Christ speaks joy, is it a different voice? Is it different than the joy you receive here in this life from carnal things or man?

There are a lot of things that I know my children receive by my hand, what I give them in a week. I do this, I do that and their mother the same way. Is there a difference? Is there a difference from the words you hear of your parents or the words that Christ said? And I'm not saying that we don't speak the words of Christ. That's what I'm hoping the Holy Spirit reveals to you today. When you speak with one another, what is your desire? When we see each other on a daily basis and you run and you scurry out to this school and you get there in the morning, what is your desire to share with one another? And more importantly, the ones who are hearing, what is your desire to hear? The carnality of the weekend? The carnality of what everybody's kids are doing? What do we desire to hear? Is there a difference between what the Lord has said and what man has said because never, never has a man spoken as this man, the God-man, the Lord Jesus Christ.

I pray and I hope, listen, the Lord said to Nicodemus, "You must be born again." There must be a life principle. There must be life. That's what Jesus said here, "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." The words of Christ and what he has spoken for his people, on behalf of his people, to his people, there has to be life in your soul to receive it. There has to be life in your soul to desire them. There has to be a power greater than ours.

As I sat here and I've been speaking, I'm much examined by the things that I've heard this week, how they affect me. How they affect my emotions: sadness, happiness, anger, bitterness, gladness. But is there a difference? And I can't answer that for you today. I can't answer if Christ has spoken to your soul that way. But what I want to do, Lord willing, is look into the Scriptures this morning, a couple of places where the Lord called his people and talked about how and what a difference his voice is.

Now, if you will, turn with me over to Luke 5 real quick. Now look at the beginning of Luke 5. "And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God." Did you hear it? I mean, the people there came to Christ because he spoke differently. His words were eloquent. His words weren't mixed with sin. His words weren't contentious as our words are.

"The people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret, And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets. And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship." They desired to hear this one speak just because he spoke differently. "Never man spoke like this man." I'm not telling you they heard the word as an effectual call or effectual power. The Lord knows those who are his. And I'll tell you what, if there were his people there, I can guarantee you they heard the word. He giveth ears to hear. He openeth the ears. He giveth the heart to understand.

"And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship. Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught." That's kind of strange, isn't it? I'll tell you how strange it is, look at verse 5,

"And Simon answering said unto him," then comes the logic and I can't blame Simon. It makes a lot of sense. "Master, we have toiled all the night," we have worked all night trying to fish, trying to catch something, "and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word." Why? Because, "Never man spake like this man." Do you try to tell me that there were people, that Simon in Simon's life, there weren't people that taught him how to fish? That there weren't people out there fishing and saying, "Hey, they're biting over there today! You need to go over there!" Just like if we go fishing, there are people out there all the time, we go to pay an expert to teach us where to fish at. But something in the voice of Christ because, "Never man spoke like this man." That's what I'm asking you today, when the Lord speaks to you, is it different than when carnal man speaks to you?

And he said this, "nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net." Do you see the power that comes in that? See the power? Peter has already given him the logic, good logic, "I've been here all night. I've done this, I've done that." But Peter said, "at thy word. At thy word. At what you've said to do, I'll do it."

"And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord." "Never man spoke like this man." And he spoke so powerfully to Peter that the words came and convicted Peter and Peter was brought to see that he was unworthy of this word spoken to him. "I doubted. I had unbelief. Lord, I'm not worthy for you to speak of this." I wonder how many times the Lord has sent that conviction to us? Have you felt it? Have you known it? Have you experienced that power of the voice of the Lord coming to you, making you unworthy? You see, it doesn't work the other way. When Christ speaks to you, it doesn't puff you up. It doesn't make you say, "Oh well, I've got this knowledge. I've got so much more than you. I've got this." It humbles the sinner.

"Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord. For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken." If you hold your finger, we're going to come back here just right here to this passage, if you hold your finger there and turn over to Matthew 4. I want to finish the account that Matthew had of the same calling because I want to make a couple of points.

Matthew 4, picking it up in verse 18, "And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Now, we're going to have that come back into our passage here in a minute. The Lord says that also to James and John who were there.

But notice this, he says, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Now, Peter was a great fisherman. Peter's life was that of being a fisherman. He made his life and everything he had, that was his vocation. The Lord said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Now notice this, "And they straightway left their nets, and followed him." That's that power, the effectual power in Christ's voice that compares what you have heard in your life, what you have done in your life, to what man has said in your life and the power that Christ comes with is a super-abounding power. You still will not convince me that up to this point in Peter's life he hasn't heard men tell him which way to go in his life. He hasn't heard people telling, "Follow me in this. Follow me in that." Peter was a fisherman. That was what his calling was, but Christ's calling is far greater than man's calling. Christ's calling comes with power and clarity and Peter didn't sit and count the cost, he rose up and he followed him.

"And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father," a nice family outing. The two boys are there with their dad. They're "mending their nets; and he called them. And they immediately left the ship and their father." So not only did they leave their vocation but they left their family member because the power of Christ came in comparison to the love that they had of their father, the love of this one was greater. You explain it to me some other way, that why they would leave the love of their dad at that moment and the camaraderie and all the time that they're having and everything that they own.

"And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him." Because, "Never man spoke like this man." When he speaks to his children, it comes with power and authority and resolve and peace. You don't think they had peace in leaving their father. They had peace in leaving their nets. This is how they made their living.

So now let's turn back over to Luke 5 and that's what verse 10 tells us, "And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men." And if that's not enough, look over with me to verse 27, "And after these things he went forth, and saw a publican." Now, Matthew had attained this job that was a very influential job. He made a lot of money. He was a tax collector. He had a pretty good gig there.

And he's "sitting there at the receipt of custom: and the Lord said to him two words, Follow me." Now, once again, we're not given into the mind of Matthew, we're not seeing in Matthew, John, all those people that the Lord calls, we're not seeing a struggle and I think about that sometimes about how much I struggle with the carnality of this world and being brought away from the world and then my desires to go back to the world and the things that are in the world. Do you struggle like that at times? This is the dire need is to hear this man who has never spoken like any other man, to say to us follow him.

"Follow me. And he left all." He left all. I mean, that little word is very inclusive. That means he left his life. That was his life. Remember we read John 6:63? "My words, they

are spirit and they're life. They give life to my children. They give power to live above this world to my children only."

"And he left all, rose up, and followed him." "Never a man spoke like this man." Never a wasteful word. Never a misplaced word. Never a frivolous word, a needless word. The Lord said, "I can do my Father's will." I think about that and it floors me and it makes me in the same mindset of Peter to say, "O Lord, I'm unworthy. I'm unworthy for you to condescend to me, to tell me to follow you. Look how much I follow in this life. Look how much I listen to the voice of man and the voice of reason and the voice of the carnal." What has the world taught me? And they've taught me a lot of things. O Lord, the desire in my soul is for you to say, "Follow me." That I would leave all. And listen, listen: it's not talking about leaving his family behind and moving to some other state, he's talking about in your soul, in your mind, in your spirit. Your inordinate loves. The Lord calls his children away from them. That's my question this morning. As you compare and you contrast, the voices you've heard, how do they stack up with what the Lord's word says?

Now turn with me to John 10. I think we're very very familiar with John 10 and we know this is, of course, the voice of the Shepherd. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber." There is one way into the sheepfold and we need to hear what that is. He is the door.

"But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him," those who the Lord calls, "the porter," which is the Holy Spirit, he "openeth the door," and here's the point, "and the sheep hear his voice." You see, I'm not sitting up here talking to you as the children of God, and that's who I address this to, may the Holy Spirit bring it to them. I'm not sitting up here talking to you about a potential of the Lord speaking to you. It's a Gospel truth that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Shepherd of his sheep and he speaks to his sheep and that's the point that the Lord has come with power to me today and impressed upon me to make this day: can you compare and contrast, can you compare, "This is how the Lord speaks to me. This is how man, my flesh, Satan, the world, this is how they speak to me," is there a difference? Because he says, "My sheep hear my voice."

"And he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out." He leads them out. Are you not hearing a voice that leads you out, out of the burden of sin? Out of the allurements of this world? Out of the strongholds of this world? Out of the clutches of Satan? Out of your fallen nature that continues to rise up in us? Is there a powerful voice in you that is leading you out away from those things? I can't answer that for you. I hope the Holy Spirit makes everyone in this room very very uncomfortable. Very comfortable in the things that we hold onto and the people we trust and those that we hear. I hope the Holy Spirit comes and convicts us just as he did to Peter, and the Lord comes to us and says, "No, that's not the truth. I am the way, the truth and the life. My voice is different. I speak of the love of Christ. I speak of the faith of Christ. I speak of Christ, I speak of myself."

"And when he putteth forth his own sheep," when he puts us forth, when he puts us forth in this world. He prayed to his Father that he not take us out of this world but to be with us in this world. But guess what? He doesn't leave us. When he puts us forth, how can he put us forth? We've got to hear his voice. How are we going to know where to go forth in this place on this earth? Have you never had direction from the Shepherd? Have you never heard an alternate voice to your flesh and your carnal desires?

"And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them." That's how you know. Where you're led to go, Christ is there. Christ has led you there. He has led you there in his peace. He has led you there in his love and the Holy Spirit wherever you've been led, is testifying of Christ and what Christ has done, that he has led you here for your soul, for the good of your soul, for the growth of your soul, to experience the grace and the mercy of him and wherever he leads us. Not to the voice of the world, the voice of carnal man.

"He goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know," that's intimate, "they know his voice." His voice is different. That's why I asked you. May the Holy Spirit come now and ask that question to you: have I heard his voice? Is his voice different than the voices I hear from the people I run into in this life? My friends? People I love? And that's what I told you earlier, when we meet the people we love, the ones who Christ dwells in your soul, you desire to hear how Christ is dwelling in the souls of the people you love, not what's happened in the world. You want to know how Christ is working and speaking to you and to the ones you love. That's the bond that he brings his children to experience together, what Christ has done. It's intimate. They hear his voice, for they know his voice.

Now listen, verse 5 is very indicting, "a stranger will they not follow," a strange voice they will not follow, "but will flee from him." How much fleeing have you done this week? I will say when I heard of the things that I heard this week from those, as I said earlier, that came across the mainstream that was out in the media, this is what the world says, the Lord says, "Flee from that. There is no truth in it. There is none." Where is there truth? It's right here. This is what the Lord has done. This is what he's finished. This is how he ministers to my soul. This is the sovereign Lord who is over every event in this world and in the heavens. He's reigning. Our Lord is reigning.

"A stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers." Notice that. It's not that they haven't heard the voice of strangers. We hear the voice of strangers every day but there is a difference. Jesus said there's a difference. There is an intimacy in my people and what they hear, my voice, and there is not an intimacy with the world's voice and the stranger's voice and may the Holy Spirit search your heart right now and ask that question to you, if you know the difference between the Lord's voice and the voice of strangers because he says right here in his word which no man has ever spoken like this man. And I hope he impresses that upon you when you leave this place today and you hear the things that go on in this world and you're speaking with one another. I hope the Holy Spirit says, "Do you know what? No one has ever spoken like this man." If he makes that alive in your soul and you experience him

speaking to you in your soul, just like, "He will flee from that voice of strangers, for they know not the voice of strangers."

Now, turn with me just a few pages over to John 6 as we get very close here to the end. I've already read this verse but let's just pick up in 61. "When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it," this is when Jesus said he was the bread that came down from heaven. There were a lot of people, we've already talked about a lot of people came to hear him. A lot of people said, "Those words are different." But they can't make them powerful and they can't make them effectual.

"Doth this offend you?" Jesus said. I'd have to ask the same thing this morning. Things that have been said this morning about the Lord and his intimacy with his people, does it offend you? Does it offend you because you haven't felt it? Does it offend you because you've put equal billing with a stranger's voice and Christ's voice and you think those two can mix? Does it offend you?

"What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before?" Would that do it? Would that change your mind? What if you saw me ascend up into the heavens? No, it wouldn't because,

"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing." No man. No man's words can profit you. The Lord must speak his word to you. They must all be taught of the Lord. That's why as a minister of God, you pray and you hope and you say, "Lord, it's up to you to speak for me. May thy sheep hear your voice, not mine. Your voice."

"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life. But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him. And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father." Do you hear that sovereignty? You know, the officers can speak, Nebuchadnezzar can speak, the people can follow, they can follow and they want to hear somebody different, they want to hear something new, they want to hear something but unless the Holy Spirit leads you to Christ, unless it was the Father's plan to save you from the foundation of this world, unless that eternal vital union is present,

"No man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father. From that time many of his disciples," they followed him everywhere because no man ever spake like this man. There are some in this room that have followed here many years, many years, and I wonder about this passage. Will there ever be a time you go back because the words you hear and the words that Christ preaches, they just don't touch your soul? It's not effectual to you? It's not powerful to you? There are other powers that are more powerful to you.

"From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away?" There is Peter again. He answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go?" You know, if we stopped right there, a lot of us

would probably have some answers to that. "Oh, I can go here. I can go there. I can experience Christ over here. I can go out here and do this." It's not what Peter is saying. He said, "There is nowhere else to go. You have the words."

"Thou hast the words of eternal life." Because, "Never man has spoken like this man." And I pray that's the case in your soul this morning, that the Lord speaks to you and says, "I have the words of eternal life."

In Ecclesiastes 8:4 we're told, "Where the word of a king is, there is power: and who may say unto him, What doest thou?" It's an interesting question because there were many that day who said those words in their heart, "What doest thou? How can you say such things? I won't follow you anymore. What do you mean the road is narrow? What do you mean it's tough? What do you mean?" I tell you, as long as I live, I pray as long as the Lord preserves me by his grace, may he fill my mouth with himself, to proclaim what he has done and he alone has done for his people, and may he receive all glory, all honor, and all praise.

I leave you with Paul's words this morning in Acts 20:32, "And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified."

Our text one more time, "The officers answered, Never man spake like this man."

Dear heavenly Father, come with power. Come, Lord, search our hearts. May you reveal that you have spoken, that you are speaking, and that you, Lord, are life and the spirit of our life. To thee be all glory and honor. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.