

# *Do You Hear God's Word?*

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**John 8:47** He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.

- I. The argument and hope of these people who hated Jesus was that they were Abraham's children.
  - A. They trusted in that fact as their assurance that they were accepted of God.
  - B. Jesus acknowledged that they were the "seed" of Abraham.

**John 8:37** I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you.

- C. But He would not agree with them that Abraham was their father, or that they were the children of Abraham.
  - 1. Paul, in the epistles to the churches expounds on this matter:

**Romans 9:6-7** Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel: Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called.

- D. They had the seed, but it had never germinated in their souls.
  - 1. They knew about Abraham, and his faith and his works, but they did not have Abraham's faith nor did they do his works.

**John 8:39** They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham.

- 2. They went as far as to claim that God was their Father, which they condemned Jesus for saying about himself.

**John 8:40-41** But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham. Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.

**John 5:18** Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.

3.

**Romans 4:13** For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

**Galatians 3:7** Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.

- II. So salvation has always been through faith, and Jesus is not changing things up here and presenting a new way to be saved.
  - A. These people had the knowledge of the truth, but they were not OF the truth.
  - B. They professed to know God, but in their works they deny Him.
  - C. They say that God is their Father, but God is love, and they hate the One God has sent to them.

- D. They have no understanding of anything spiritual or eternal and discern everything strictly by the earthly and carnal.
  - 1. And they consider their carnal and earthly understanding to be valid proof of their righteous standing before God.
- E. They have not the Word of God abiding in them.

John 8:37 I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you.

John 8:43 Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word.

John 8:47 He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.

- F. They did just exactly what everyone still does; they refuse to hear, read, study, and get understanding of the Word of God, and just rely on church membership, a profession of faith, baptism, or the fact that they were raised as a Christian.
  - 1. They rested in their social standing and their pedigree as their refuge from God and the fear of death.
  - 2. They lived carnal and ungodly lives, even though they wore religious robes.
  - 3. And they simply trusted in their own hearts; their opinions, their feelings, what they imagined about themselves, without allowing the Word of God to examine them and reveal to them the truth.

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

- G. Faith is what they were lacking here.
  - 1. They had faith in what they believed about themselves, but they did not have faith in God.
  - 2. They had no real saving faith because they did not have the Word of God abiding in them.
  - 3. Faith is the thing that makes hearing God's Word possible.
  - 4. We can hear it with our ears, but it does not reach our heart without faith.
  - 5. We might liken it to a radio frequency and faith being the only frequency where God speaks to men.
- H. Faith begins when you lay down your pride and stubbornness and stop resisting and arguing and contending.
- I. "Faith cometh by hearing," so faith begins when you stop talking and start listening.
- J. Hearing means that someone else is talking, so there will be someone else speaking the Word of God to you.
- K. So faith begins when you stop resisting and contending with those whom God has put in your path to bring you the Word of God.

III. What a tragedy to live and die and never hear God's Words, even though they were spoken in your presence many times.

- A. "Take heed WHAT ye hear..." Jesus said in Mark 4:24
- B. "Take heed HOW ye hear..." in Luke 8:18
- C. God pleads with man all through the Scriptures to "hear" or to listen to the Word of God.
- D. "In the beginning was the Word..." and all faith begins with his Word.
- E. Whether you listen or not will ultimately determine your eternity.