

And This Will We Do, If God Permits
An Expository Journey through the Epistle to the Hebrews
Chapter 2: God Speaks Now through Jesus
Hebrews 1:1&2
14: God Speaks through Jesus: Part 9

WAOY Thursday 01/15/09

Welcome again, my beloved in Jesus Christ. We are continuing our verse-by-verse journey through the **Epistle of Hebrews**, and today I want to continue to look at what the writer of **Hebrews** taught about the superior way that God speaks to Man under the New Covenant by looking at **Hebrews 1:1&2**. So let's read those verses again together.

Hebrews 1:1&2

1 God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,

² in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

Now, we are continuing to look at what the writer of **Hebrews** is discussing here in these two verses by looking at the various ways that God used to speak to Man under the First Covenant, or the Old Covenant, versus the much more superior way that God speaks to Man through the New Covenant. And Lord willing, on today's broadcast, I want to try to tie together all that we have studied so far. What we have learned is that all that God revealed to Man under the Old Covenant was recorded for us by the prophets or their designates, and put into the Thirty-Nine Books of the Old Testament. And all that God Revealed to Man under the New Covenant was recorded for us by the Apostles, or their designates, and put in the Twenty-Seven Books of the New Testament.

So what we have in the Sixty-Six Books of the Holy Bible is the entire, complete, and final Revelation of God to Man. There is nothing about the Character and Nature of God, and nothing about Salvation, and nothing about the Person of Jesus Christ that God wanted to share with Man that he has not *already* shared - either in Creation itself – or

shared in what has been placed into one or more of these inspired Books. Now because *that* is true... because all that God has revealed to Man is found either in the Holy Bible or in Creation itself... we are given very serious warnings not to add to or take away from anything that is written in the Bible. And those warnings were from the very beginning of time. For example, please turn with me and read **Genesis 3:1**.

3 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, “Indeed, has God said, ‘You shall not eat from *any* tree of the garden’?”

Now, what Satan was doing here was putting doubt into Eve’s mind about just what God had actually *said*. And this ancient tactic of sowing doubt about what God said or did *not* say is the first step in deception. You see, if Satan is successful in getting you to doubt God’s Word, then the remainder of your fall will come to pass very rapidly. It needs to be said here that the entire time Satan was deceiving Eve, the Bible says that Adam was standing right next to her and made no move at all to protect his wife from the lies and deception of Satan. This shows us the depth of Adam’s sin. You see, Eve was deceived; she was tricked; she was fooled by Satan, but Adam was not fooled. Adam *wanted* to sin; he planned to sin; he *desired* to rebel against God. That is why *Adam’s* sin caused the fall of mankind and not Eve. That is why Paul taught in **1 Corinthians 15:22**:

²² For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.

And it was the result of Adam not protecting and guarding his wife from Satan’s deception that led to Eve being deceived; so God judged Adam and Eve and cursed them for their sin, and God told Eve this in **Genesis 3:16**:

**¹⁶ To the woman He said,
“I will greatly multiply
Your pain in childbirth,
In pain you will bring forth children;
Yet *your* desire will be for your *husband* (lit. “desire to rule over”),
And (But) *he* will rule over *you*.”**

Now the way that the original Hebrew is written here shows us that what God actually said was that the Woman's desire (now that she was fallen) would be to rule over her husband, to dominate him. The fallen nature of the Woman is to control her husband. That is part and parcel to what it means to be fallen. And what is even more incredible is that along with the natural fallen nature of the woman, that desire to dominate her husband, it is the natural fallen nature of the *man* to *allow* her to do so. So both female domination in the marriage union and male acquiescence to that domination is sin; it is the result of the Fall; and it is not pleasing at all to God.

Therefore worship... genuine worship... Spirit-and-Truth worship, is that the Woman struggles against her natural inclination to dominate her husband, and graciously- by the power of the Spirit – she submits herself to his authority; and the Man struggles against his own fallen inclination to allow his wife to dominate him and graciously - by the power of the Spirit - rules over his wife in the form of servant leadership. Any other arrangement between Man and Woman in the Home, or the Nation, or in the Church, is sin and it dishonors God, and cannot ever be sanctified and will never be able to please God in any way, shape, or form. And this is true in spite of any societal evolution or change in customs or national heritage or culture.

God's Word clearly teaches these two aspects.

1. The Order of Creation: God made Man *first*, and *then* the Woman.
2. The Garden: The fact that it is easier for women to be deceived than it is for men.

Those two clear Biblical teachings form the basis as to why women cannot be Pastors or Elders in the House of God. And so all tension between men and women, all diseases, all wars, and pain in childbirth, and thorns and thistles, earning our bread by the sweat of our brows, the earth decaying, animals being vicious, the loss of human free will, the loss of immortality to death; all of this is the result of Satan putting doubt into the mind of Eve over just what God *said*.

So I ask you, "*Is knowing what God has said important for us today?*"

If God's Word would have been known and loved and obeyed and defended against this attack from Satan, Eve would have never been

deceived. So from this tragic story, we get a very clear warning that we have a duty, an obligation, and a responsibility to know what God has said. We must study, love, obey, and defend what God has said from anyone who for *any* reason would try to change it or cast doubt upon it.

But there are other warnings about not fooling around with God's Word. For example, please turn with me and read **Deuteronomy 18:20-22**.

²⁰ But the prophet who speaks a word presumptuously in My name which I have not commanded him to speak, or which he speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'

²¹ You may say in your heart, 'How will we know the word which the Lord has not spoken?'

²² When a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the thing does not come about or come true, that is the thing which the Lord has not spoken. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him.

When I was a young Christian, people would stand up in the Church Service and give what they called "Words". And they would preface what they said with this phrase: "*Thus saith the Lord*" or "*Thus says the Lord*" or "*The Word of the Lord comes to you, saying...*". And then they would speak things that were a mixture of Scripture combined with future events... usually great blessings for those over whom they were speaking. Now they told me that this was what was called "prophecy, and they said that God had taken control of the voice box and mouth of that individual so that God could speak to His people or to that individual. And I was all of sixteen years old, and it sounded like what happened during Bible times to me. And these people acted like they knew what they were doing, so it sounded good to me. In fact I was in awe of this and it scared me, and I was afraid to ask too many questions about it, because they all told me that it was God.

But as time went on, some of what these people said didn't happen. In fact *most* of what they said would happen didn't come to pass. Almost *nothing* they said came to pass. And I know that because I was in such awe about these things that I wrote down what they said so that I wouldn't forget it. After all, they told me it was God and the last thing I wanted to do was forget or disobey what God had said, right?

So things that they said would happen did not happen, and things that they said would not happen did happen. They said people would

live who died, and they said people would die who lived, and they said people would be financially blessed who weren't, and they said people would be cursed financially who were blessed. Even entire events that they said would happen by certain dates did not happen, even decades later. Now, being the kind of curious person that I am, I asked about this obvious failure over something that supposedly the Owner and Creator of the Universe - Who *cannot* lie - had said. And they told me that when a prophecy didn't happen that the part that failed was what they called *presumptuous* and the part that was right was *of God*.

But when I asked them how in the world I was supposed to obey something, believe something, and trust in something that was obviously wrong the overwhelming majority of the time, they told me that over time you develop an inner sense whereby you can "witness" or "feel" with the part of the so-called prophecy that is right, and you ignore the part that is wrong. And that sounded pretty deep to me so I went along with that; but then I ran into another problem. The people who had supposedly already developed that inner witness were saying that some Words were right and then later on we would all find out it was wrong. So then I asked about *that*. And then they told me that because God speaks through human flesh in prophecy, some utterances were not inspired the same way that Scripture is inspired. And when I asked what that was supposed to mean they told me that I was getting close to blaspheming the Holy Ghost.

And I surely didn't want to do that, so the only thing I was left with was that when people stood up in the Church Service to give what they called *prophecy*, it was almost (but not quite) inspired, and we should believe it without question and trust it without fear and obey it without any hesitation. But all the while we have to brace ourselves, because it probably isn't even true.

Now I want to read **Deuteronomy 18:22** again (KJV).

22 When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD , if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.

So what is *really* happening here is that very sincere people are doing what they have been taught to do and they honestly believe that

they are bringing forth the Word of God. But in fact, as sincere as they may be, they are *not* bringing forth the Word of God. And God's true Word tells us that they are *presumptuous*, in other words, they have *presumed* to speak on God's behalf when God has not authorized them to do so, and what they speak is not from God, and we do not need to fear it or obey it or even listen to it.

You see, dear friends, what God says comes to pass. God never lies. In fact He *cannot* lie, and when people speak today "on God's behalf", they really take too much on themselves and they really need to sit down and be quiet. God Almighty spoke one time, "**Let there be light**", and light bursts forth every day. And God spoke completely inspired Words that we can trust, and that are true, and that are fully inerrant and fully reliable, and fully trustworthy, and we can believe and trust in them... and we *must* obey them and all men will be judged by them. And they are found in the Sixty-Six Books of the Holy Bible. And you know what? It's enough.

Well, I have to stop right here, but please join me on the next broadcast as we continue our journey through the Epistle of **Hebrews**. May God help us all.

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The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen. Be watchful and quicken your pace. *Soli Deo Gloria*. For the Glory of God alone.