

## **SPOKEN TO YOU BY GOD**

(Matt. 22:29-32)

### **Introduction:**

1. Jesus so often spoke simply and yet powerfully. Jesus taught us so much with so few words.
2. God has spoken to us, and continues to speak to us by way of His word, the Bible. The question is not if God will tell us what we need to know, but rather, what will we do with the things He has given us.
3. Let us consider the Bible this morning; the fact that it is authentic, authoritative, and active.

### **Discussion:**

#### **I. The Bible is Authentic.**

- A. The Bible claims to be inspired of God (2 Pet. 1:20, 21; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17; Eph. 3:1-7).
- B. The Bible is filled with proofs of inspiration.
  1. Scientific foreknowledge.
    - a. Use of running water when dealing with infections (Lev. 15:13).
    - b. Circumcision on 8<sup>th</sup> day = coinciding with highest levels of prothrombocytes in body.
    - c. Dietary restrictions = foods 95% less toxins in them.
  2. Historical accuracy.
    - a. Hittites only found in Bible until capital city of Hattusa was found in 1893.
    - b. Sargon II, king of Assyria, only found in Bible until his capital city was found in Khorsabad, Iraq in 1873.
  3. Confirmed predictive prophecy (Is. 45:1-13 = 150 years before; 1 Kings 13:2 = 2 Kings 23:20 = 300 years before). Not to mention all of the Messianic prophecies.
  4. The “God-ness” of the message.
- C. The Bible never contradicts itself although it was written by 40 men on three continents, using three languages over a span of 1600 years.
- D. Every archaeological discovery confirms the accuracy of the Bible message and its conveyance.

#### **II. The Bible is Authoritative.**

- A. 2 Tim. 3:15-17.
- B. The chain of authority stopped with the apostles.
  1. God said He would judge man by the words He gave to His Prophet (Deut. 18:18, 19).
  2. Jesus said He was that Prophet (John 12:44-50).
  3. Jesus told His apostles that He would give them the Holy Spirit in order to remind them of all His words and give them words they could not yet handle, so that they could pass it on to others (Matt. 28:18-20; John 14:23-26; 16:12-15; 17:20).
- C. When the Bible was complete, the age of miracles would come to an end (1 Cor. 13:8-10; Eph. 4:11-16; Acts 8:17).
- D. The only source we have today for the word of God is the Bible, and since it is by His word that we will be judged it is the only source of authority regarding God and His will.

#### **III. The Bible is Active.**

- A. Heb. 4:12.
- B. Rom. 8:29; 12:2 + Phil. 2:5 + 1 Cor. 2:16 = the means of salvation are by making the mind of Christ our own, and the Bible is the mind of Christ.
- C. Even though the Bible is active and able to make us wise unto salvation, transform us into Christ-likeness, and bless us like a tree planted by the river it can do absolutely nothing sitting on a shelf unopened and unread. It is the seed that must be planted in our hearts and allowed to produce (Matt. 13:8, 23).

### **Conclusion:**

1. Truly the faith (the word of God) has been revealed once to all (Jude 3). And as from the beginning, the only thing that remains is whether we will heed it.
2. Invitation.

## **MORE ON “SPOKEN TO YOU BY GOD”**

1. We must have absolute confidence in the Bible as being the word of God; inspired and without error.
  - A. If you don't trust a recipe you probably won't stick closely to it.
  - B. If you don't believe in a play in a football game, you probably won't run it.
  
2. The onus for this confidence is our own, and ours alone.
  - A. We cannot be saved by what someone else knows or believes.
  - B. God has given us all things unto life and godliness (2 Pet. 1:3) and He expects us to seek Him.
    1. This entails our coming to the Bible looking for “the words of eternal life” (John 6:68).
    2. This entails our believing that the Bible is from God and responding appropriately (1 Thess. 2:13ff).
  - C. We are both blessed and cursed to live in this day and age. Cursed, because of all of the unfounded skepticism regarding the Bible. Blessed, because of all the resources we have in order to verify the Bible's claim to inspiration and its proper dissemination/conveyance.
  - D. We are further blessed to live in a time when the Bible is so readily available to us; not to mention all of the extra-biblical teaching aids we have (e-sword, commentaries, concordances, etc.).
  
3. There is no other source of information regarding God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. We cannot know them or their will without their revealing it to us (1 Cor. 2-4). They have decided to do so via the written word (scripture).
  
4. A tool that is not used will not profit.
  - A. Exercise equipment, no matter how expensive and effective, is useless if it is not used.
  - B. You can lead a horse to water but it must bow its head and drink (think on this).
  - C. The Bible teaches plainly that we are all without excuse with regards to our own salvation. God has created us, given us choice, revealed Himself to us, lived a life to lead us, died in our place to redeem us, rose from the dead to encourage us, and given us the Bible that we might know all things necessary to live this life well and in order to have eternal life.
  
5. What will you do with the things God has spoken to you? Will you heed His words and allow them to transform you? Or will you ignore them, demean them, and refuse to allow them to work effectively in you? Truly, truly, the Spirit and the bride say come!