

## LISTEN, HEAR AND OBEY THE VOICE OF GOD.

(Parua Bay Christian Fellowship - 2/9/90 - EKB)

**Reading:** *Ps 81:8-16 (NKJV)*

1. **Verse 8** – “Hear, O My people and I will **admonish** you! O Israel, if you will **listen** to Me!”

God is looking for a **listening people**, who are **hearing** His voice. Jesus said, “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me, and I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish, neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand,” *Jn 10:27,28*.

**God is a speaking God.** He speaks to us daily, in many ways as we seek after Him, *Ps 32:8, Is 55:3, Pro 4:20-22*.

He speaks to us through **His Word** as we spend time reading it, *Ps 119:9*.

He speaks to us by the **inward witness** of the Spirit, *Jn 14:26, 16:13, Jer 33:3*.

He speaks to us through **other believers**, *Heb 10:25, Rom 15:14*.

God guides us by ordering and over-ruling our **circumstances**, *Ps 37:23, Pro 3:5,6*.

**Invite God to speak** to you as Samuel did, *1Sam 3:10*, as David did, *Ps 119:18*, and James, *Jam 1:5*.

The Lord says, “I will **admonish** you!” which means He will warn us, correct us, guide us, teach and lead us.

“Our ear will hear a word behind us saying, ‘this is the way, walk in it!’ whenever we turn to the left or to the right.” *Is 30:21*. He is faithful, He will speak to us to bring us back on track, if we are listening to Him. We all need God to “admonish” us and to change us.

**The aim of our christian lives** is to know God and to walk in obedience to His will, to walk in His ways, *Is 55:8,9*.

Maintain set times of prayer and reading the Word, listening to and hearing the **VOICE of the LORD**, *Jn 6:63,68*. Keep a note of what God says.

Of course **God has already spoken** to us through His Son. *Heb 1:2*.

Many of His words to us are in *Mat 5-7*.

Jesus said, “whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house upon a Rock...,” *Mat 7:24*, but God also speaks to us bringing strength, courage, comfort, faith, guidance, warning, correction and light.

2. **Verse 9** – “There shall be no foreign god among you: nor shall you worship any foreign god.”

There are many foreign gods in our world such as the “gods of pornography, drugs, rock music, entertainment and TV, lust, pride, materialism, pleasure, false cults, witchcraft, “New Age” gods, alcohol and many others.

As we listen to, and heed the voice of our God, He will faithfully deliver us from every false god and evil bondage, and bring us into the glorious liberty of the sons of God.

*Rom 8:21,14, 2Cor 3:17, Gal 5:1,13, Jn 8:32,36*.

Jesus Christ is the “**Great Liberator**”. Through Him we will be free to worship the true God in spirit and truth, *Jn 4:23,24*, and serve Him.

3. **Verse 10** – “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt; open your mouth wide and I will fill it.”

The Lord has already done great and mighty things for us.

He has brought us out of the kingdom of darkness by the Blood of the Lamb, and in so doing He has “defeated, defeated all of our foes.” *Ex 12:12, Col 1:13,14, Is 54:17, Col 2:15, 1Jn 3:8, Heb 2:14, Rev 12:11,1Jn 4:4*.

“Open your mouth wide....”, means that it is God’s will for us to expect and receive His abundant life, grace and provision. **He is the God of the “much more.”** *2Chr 25:9, Eph 3:20, Ps 84:11, Jn 10:10b, 2Cor 9:8, Lk 11:13, Rom 5:9,10,15,20, Heb 9:14, Rom 8:32*. No matter how wide you open your mouth God will fill it. *Jn 14:13,14, Jn 16:23,24, Mat 21:22, Mk 11:24*.

4. **Verses 11,12** – “But My people would not heed My voice, and Israel would have none of Me. So I gave them over to their own stubborn heart, to walk in their own counsels.”

The choice is up to us. Life or death, which will we **choose**? *Deut 30:19*. His way is life eternal, but our own ways end in eternal death and separation from God, *Pro 16:25*. Follow the example of Joshua, “as for me and my house we will serve the Lord!” *Josh 24:15*.

5. **Verses 13,14** – “Oh that My people would listen to Me, that Israel would walk in My ways! I would soon subdue their enemies, and turn My hand against their adversaries.”

As we walk in obedience to the voice of the Lord, He **subdues our enemies**, and **turns back our adversaries**. In *Mic 7:19* it says, “God will subdue our iniquities,” of pride, fear, doubt, unbelief, rebellion, lust, self concern, legalism and covetousness. These are our inward enemies and God subdues them. Also He pushes back our adversaries and causes them to flee, *Ps 56:9*. “When I cry out to God my enemies turn back, this I know because God is for me.”

“He will rebuke the devourer for our sakes,” *Mal 3:11, Jam 4:7, Lk 10:19*. “The Lord shall fight for you and you shall hold your peace,” *Ex 14:14*.

6. **Verses 15,16** – “The haters of the Lord would pretend submission to Him, but their fate would endure forever. He would have fed them also with the finest of the wheat, and with honey from the rock I would have satisfied you.”

Those who hate God will acknowledge defeat and the Lord will fill us with the abundance of the blessings of His Word, and of the riches of the blessing available to us through Jesus Christ, the Rock of Ages.

As we realise the richness of the blessings of Almighty God upon those who **listen** to Him, **hear** and **obey** His Word, let us choose this way of life for us, our families, and so out to our neighbourhood, nation and world.