

Getting to Know God's Voice

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The most comprehensive teaching I know in the Bible on getting to know God's voice is in **Psalm 29**, yet I have never heard it taught. Psalm 29 so vividly describes God's voice that it can greatly aid us in separating the voice of God from the voice of the flesh, the voice of other people's influence, and the voice of the devil. All ministers of the gospel would do well to meditate this Psalm; especially those called to be prophets. Psalm 29 describes God's voice in picture language or figurative language. (In the Bible figurative language must be interpreted figuratively and literal language literally) The picture here in Psalm 29 is in secret code. It is scrambled so only those believers who are willing to meditate on it by the Spirit of God break the secret code. It is not hidden FROM us; actually it is hidden FOR us if we will take the time to meditate. Follow me in your own King James Bible as we "revelate" together in this Psalm.

Verse 1 - As we maintain a posture of praise, "giving him glory and strength", we position ourselves to hear his voice. Also as we recognize that God calls us "mighty", we develop the healthy self-image that helps us expect to hear from Him. A negative self-image will cause you to disqualify yourself internally; "God would never talk to me." We must approach the Lord knowing that we are His "mighty" ones, qualified by His own grace to hear from Him.

Verse 2 - Again, while we are "giving glory" to Him in total abandonment of self, we position ourselves to hear His voice. Praise delivers us from self-centeredness. Nothing is harder to hear than God's voice when you have your heart and mind on someone else or something else. Praise concentrates and focuses your spirit on the Lord. An acute awareness that you are living "in the beauty of holiness" (also translated "in his glorious sanctuary") will give you boldness of communication with him. As you acknowledge that you are welcome in the holy of holies; that you are seated in heavenly places; that you have access to His very throne; that you have a hearing with the Father; that you are in HIS PRESENCE; that the throne room is your home; that the altar is behind you and that you are welcome between the wings of the cherubim... YOU TUNE IN TO GOD'S CHANNEL where He is broadcasting and sending out signals. Developing skill in TUNING IN GOD and TUNING OUT SELF AND SURROUNDINGS is to leap over the highest hurdle towards the finish line of prophetic listening.

Verse 3a - The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. When God speaks to your spirit, it floats to the top. God's Voice is bouyant. It doesn't sink. Rather it lifts and floats.

Verse 3b - The God of glory thundereth. God is the God of Glory. Glory means "honor". When He speaks, He speaks with honor, integrity, and dignity. God's voice thunders in your spirit. It is clear and quick. It flashes and peals through your inner man. In other words, it gets your attention. It also means that when God speaks, it is often sudden and sometimes startling in one sense (not that it ever causes fear, however).

Verse 3c - The Lord is upon many waters. Many waters describe pictures like Niagra Falls, rapids in a canyon river, or a dam opening its gates. When God speaks, it has a "rushing" effect in your spirit. His voice rushes in and resounds in your heart like rapids of fast moving waters.

Verse 4a - The voice of the Lord is powerful, Power-ful - When God speaks in your Spirit, you can sense a fullness or completeness to His voice. His voice is "pregnant "with power. It is urgent and persuasive. When He speaks, it seems to your spirit that His Words carry more weight and force than other voices do.

Verse 4b - The voice of the Lord is full of majesty. Here it is again. When God speaks there is a fullness, a spreading out, a complete sense of satisfaction about His voice. Then His voice is also majestic. His voice within you rings with authority and finality. His voice demands a hearing. Since it is majestic, meaning of a

royal quality, it immediately brings a sense of awe and humility to your inner man.

Verse 5 - The voice of the Lord breaketh the cedars; yea, the Lord breaketh the cedars of Lebanon. The voice of the Lord in your spirit has a "zip" or "zap" or "sizzling" essence to it. God's voice has a "breaking", "cutting" or "destructive" element to it. When God speaks about his enemies, it feels in your spirit that the words coming forth are as a single devastating blow.

Verse 6 - He maketh them also to skip like a calf: Lebanon and Sirion like a young unicorn (oxen). His voice skips. It skips in your spirit like a stone skipping across the water top. It reverberates and has a persistence about it. Mt. Hermon was called Sirion by the enemy until Israel possessed it for God and renamed it. God's voice is POSSESSIVE. In your spirit it persists on repossessing enemy territory. His voice steamrolls the enemy. And like young oxen, His voice has a "newness, freshness and even playful" essence to it.

Verse 7 - The voice of the Lord divideth the flames of fire. His voice has a ring of command to it. It has a separating effect, dividing the chaff from the grain, dividing between the spirit and flesh. It comes "sneakin' in there". Dividing also implies ability to sift, strain, judge, weigh, and cut out. In other words, God's voice is VERY CREATIVE. In your spirit, you can feel its creative essence.

Verse 8 - The voice of the Lord shaketh the wilderness (desert): the Lord shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh. God's voice SHAKES THINGS! Kadesh was a place of rebellion in Numbers. God's voice shakes down rebellion and disobedience. It doesn't tolerate compromise or rebellion of any type.

Verse 9a - The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds (deer) to calve (be in birth pain). God's voice MAKETH! Again we see it is creative in nature. His voice has a birthing effect. It's full of new life. It births things.

Verse 9b - And discovereth the forests. God's voice DISCOVERS. In other words, it has a penetrating effect. It opens the human heart. It reveals inner secrets. "Discover" also implies that God's voice is an inner voice, not an outer voice.

Verse 9c - When God speaks, it demands a response. One must respond by giving Him glory. God's voice draws out praise and demands action.

Verse 10 - When God speaks, His voice is always on top of the circumstances.

Verse 11 - The result of God speaking is that His people are invigorated, strengthened, blessed, and peaceful. His voice is not confusing or weakening.

CONCLUSION

I trust the Holy Spirit has illuminated your spirit and made you more sensitive, perceptive, and receptive to His voice as we have meditated this Psalm together. He is speaking! Listen, O man of God! Listen, O Daughter of Zion!

Other Nuggets:

To hear God's voice it helps to have regular Bible devotions. His voice sounds like the voice you seem to perceive when you read your Bible. Also it helps to be mentoring under a supernatural pastor in a supernatural pasture. (Not "First Church Of The Deepfreeze" and not "Dr. Poem-And-A-Pun") Remember, when young Samuel first heard the voice of God at night, he kept running to Eli the Priest, his spiritual mentor. To Samuel the voice of the Lord sounded like the voice of his pastor... maybe not in tonal quality, but in spiritual substance it was so similar he couldn't tell the difference.