

1 Samuel 3:9-10 KJV Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, LORD; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place. (10) And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth.

For more years than I would like to remember, I was told by my older Brothers and Sisters in Christ, that the only way that I could hear the voice of God was by reading the Bible. So, when I left home without my Bible by my side, naturally I would only have my conscience for my guide. Then, if I did not have a properly trained conscience, I would be left with only a few poorly memorized Bible verses to guide me. This would be the state of many young Believers in Christ Jesus.

Then, one day I was reading my Bible, and I came across this verse of Scripture: John 10:27 KJV My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

Notice, this Scripture does not say, "my sheep read my voice", but it does say, "My sheep hear my voice". Now, there are a lot of well meaning folk that would say, "Brother Hubbard, what Jesus was saying here was, that when we read or heard about the true things of God, then we would know the truth." Yes this is true, but what about those people in the Bible, that literally "heard" the voice of God?

There was Adam, in the Garden of Eden, who literally walked and talked with God. (Genesis 3:8-11 KJV) And God dealt direct with Cain after he murdered Able. Then God spoke to Noah. (Genesis 6:13-18 KJV) God Spoke to Abraham. (Genesis 12:1-4 KJV) The another time that He spoke directly to men was in our text verse, when he spoke to Samuel (1 Samuel 3:9-10 KJV) This kind of thing of God or His representative, speaking directly to men, is repeated over and over again, all the way through the word of God One very clear example of how God speaks to men, is found in the pending ship wreck of Paul in (Acts 27:23-24 KJV).

One thing of caution though, is that there are many deceivers today that say that God told them this or that. I will say that, God will lead us with the Written Word. God will cause circumstances to shape our paths. God still has that still small voice to speak to us. **1 Kings 19:11-15 KJV** However that God chooses to speak to you or me, what He says, will always be found in the finished or sure Word of God, or in the precepts that we call the Bible. Any time, someone comes to you and says that God told them something, then it is the proper thing to search the Written Word to see if what these folks are saying is true. Sometimes Satan will use partial truths from the Bible in which to hide his lies,

Acts 17:10-12 KJV And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming *thither* went into the synagogue of the Jews. (11) These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. (12) Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.

One thing that God has burned down into my spirit is, that my God is still the same. There are no short comings in our precious Lord. He is totally fair, just and Holy. Another thing, that He has taught me, is that you really can not put God any kind of box (Could it be that your Denomination is a kind of box?) and hope that He will abide by your rules. He is much more than our little ideas can hold Him to. But, He will never step outside of His revealed, written Word. If you are young in Christ, sometimes He will do what it takes to help you stand for Him. But sooner or later, God expects us to "man up".

1 Corinthians 16:13-14 KJV (13) Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men **(to act manly)**, be strong. (14) Let all your things be done with charity.

Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it. 1 Thessalonians 5:24

Did you know that many churches are filled with many preachers, at ease in Zion - Who are digging deep spiritual holes and hiding their many, needed, God given, talents. 2 Timothy 4:2 KJV Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.