

What Do You Hear?

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour. "Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again. The people therefore, that stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered: others said, An angel spake to him. Jesus answered and said, This voice came not because of me, but for your sakes." **John 12:27-30**.

Isn't it strange when several people hear the same thing and have different opinions about what they heard? Jesus said that it was not thunder, but a voice that they heard. Were they so blinded by their unbelief that they could no longer recognize the truth? He went on to say that the voice came for them, for their benefit that they might believe in Jesus and be saved. Some were so set against Jesus that they refused to believe no matter how many miracles that they witnessed.

What a wonderful opportunity they had to be able to hear the Lord himself tell them of the Father and of heaven. A few be-

lieved but many threw away their opportunity by rejecting him.

Today we are not able to hear the Lord speak as when he walked the earth and taught the people. Even so, we are able to read and hear his wonderful words of life. This same word of God is still able to bring us to the Lord if we open our hearts and receive his salvation. We can be saved the same way that the first Christians were saved and added to the church. The plan of salvation has not changed and never will.

We are to believe, that is to place our faith, in Jesus as the Son of God. "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him," **Hebrews 11:6**. When a person believes in God and in his son Jesus, he will repent of his sins. "And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel," **Mark 1:15**. When we believe in Jesus and repent of our sins we will confess him as our Lord and that as a sinner we need his forgiveness. "And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father," **Philippians 2:11**. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness," **1 John 1:9**. To be saved a person must believe, repent, confess, and then obey the Lord's words. At

this point the person who wants to be saved will be baptized for the remission of sins. Why? Because the Lord said to do it. There need be no other reason than Jesus said to do it. "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost", **Matthew 28:19**. "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost," **Acts 2:38**. If we have believed and obeyed God's plan of salvation we are saved and a part of the family of God. Then we are to walk with the Lord the rest of our lives. "That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God," **1 Peter 4:2**.

Whether we hear God's word with our ears, or read it from the page, it is true. Jesus called men to preach his word and those who receive it through faith will be saved. Man is to not only hear it but to believe it for it is the Word of God. "He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son," **1 John 5:10**. When the word of God is proclaimed, either by speaking or writing it will be believed or rejected. So when we have opportunity to read or hear, what do we get from it, a blessing from God, or just noise?

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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Genesis intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

A BRIDE FOR ISAAC

REBEKAH'S BROTHER, LABAN, HAS INVITED ELIEZER TO LODGE AT THEIR HOUSE, HOPING FOR AN EXPLANATION OF THE COSTLY GIFTS HE GAVE REBEKAH....

ENTER AND EAT!

I WILL NOT EAT UNTIL I HAVE TOLD MINE ERRAND!

...NOW ELIEZER TELLS HOW HE SEARCHES FOR A BRIDE FOR ISAAC AND HOW REBEKAH DID ALL THOSE THINGS THAT SHOW SHE IS THE INTENDED....

LABAN AND ALL THE FAMILY LISTEN WITH GREAT INTEREST!

NOW ELIEZER ASKS THE IMPORTANT QUESTION: "WILL YE DEAL KINDLY WITH ME, AND LET ME TAKE THE MAIDEN TO MY MASTER AS A BRIDE FOR HIS BELOVED SON?"

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