

A SERIES OF DEVOTIONS BASED ON THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

GOD SPEAKS

Hebrews 1:1-2 “In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom also He made the universe.”

The book of Hebrews is unusual in that it does not follow the normal way a letter would have been written in the first century AD. If the writer had followed the normal format, he would have introduced himself, any office or position he had that would indicate with what authority he was writing such as St. Paul stating he was an Apostle. Instead, he calls attention to the fact that God has spoken throughout the entire Old Testament through prophets and now in the New Testament He has spoken through His Son Jesus Christ. All who hear this sermon or read it are hearing the voice of God as God addresses them through His Son Jesus Christ.

Whereas for thousands of years God had spoken through prophets or during the wilderness wandering through His own voice to the people, here in Hebrews God says He will no longer speak through them. Now God says He will speak through His Son. Of His Son Jesus God said, “This is My Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased” and in Matthew 17:5 to Peter, James and John at Jesus’ transfiguration, “This is My Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased. Listen to Him!”

Jesus was sent by God to speak His word to the world and offer Himself as the sacrifice for its sins. The people who heard Him, “. . . were amazed at His teaching, because He taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.” (Matthew 7:29) The guards guarding Jesus said, “No one ever spoke the way this man does . . .” (John 7:46) Jesus’ message to the world was, as still is, of its salvation by God’s grace through faith in Him.

Every time you read the Gospel or hear it from the lips of your pastor or a fellow Christian, God through the Gospel Word is speaking to you of His unconditional, undeserved, never-ending love for you. As you go with me on this journey through the book of Hebrews do as God said to the three disciples at Jesus’ Transfiguration, “Listen to Him.” His words to you are God’s message of your salvation and the eternal life Jesus came to earth to win for you.

Prayer: Bless me Jesus with ears to hear Your life saving words. Amen.

Jesus sinners doth receive; Oh, may all this saying ponder
Who in sin's delusions live And from God and heaven wander!
Here is hope for all who grieve; Jesus sinners doth receive.

We deserve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich grace revealing,
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim; Here our ills have perfect healing.
Firmly in these words believe: Jesus sinners doth receive.

Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shepherd e'er forsaketh;
Weary souls that lost their way Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh
In His arms that they may live: Jesus sinners doth receive.

I, a sinner, come to Thee With a penitent confession.
Savior, mercy show to me; Grant for all my sins remission.
Let these words my soul relieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.

Oh, how blest it is to know: Were as scarlet my transgression,
It shall be as white as snow By Thy blood and bitter passion;
For these words I now believe: Jesus sinners doth receive.

Now my conscience is at peace; From the Law I stand acquitted.
Christ hath purchased my release And my ev'ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.

Jesus sinners doth receive; Also I have been forgiven;
And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to Him I cleave: Jesus sinners doth receive.
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