

"THE CLARION VOICES OF GOD"

Matt 13:15

INTRODUCTION

- A. Sometimes people may wonder, if there is God; why hasn't He made Himself more clearly known? Why has He spoken only through what many view as an antiquated book (the Bible)?
- B. I would contend that God has made Himself known. He has spoken in various ways (in addition to a book that is far from antiquated). He has spoken quite loudly (for those willing to listen)
- C. "The Clarion Voices Of God" (*Clarion: a very clear message or instruction about what action is needed: Cambridge Dictionary*)

DISCUSSION:

I. GOD SPEAKS LOUDLY THROUGH HIS CREATION

- A. God's voice in his creation...
 1. Reveals His glory and His handiwork Psa 19:1-4
 2. Reveals His eternal power and divine nature Rom 1:19-20
 3. Through intelligent design of universe God says, "I exist!"
- B. Do we take time to consider the wonders of creation?
 1. Psalmist took time to contemplate Psa 8:3; 104:24-25; 139:14
 2. If we open our eyes to world around us, we will say "I believe!"
- C. Through His creation we can know that God exists. But what does this Supreme Being desire of us? He tells us!

II. GOD SPEAKS LOUDLY THROUGH HIS WORD

- A. God's voice in his word...
 1. Is designed to produce faith (trust, conviction) Rom 10:17
 2. Fulfilled prophecy is designed to produce faith in God Isa 42:8-9; 44:6-8; 45:18-21; 46:9-11
 3. Eyewitness testimony offers evidence to believe in Jesus Acts 10:39-42; 1Jhn 1:1-4
 4. God's Word has spread to every nation and translated into virtually every language Rom 10:17-18
 5. The manuscript evidence which attests to its authenticity as a historical document far surpasses any other ancient document (such as those by Socrates, Plato, Homer, etc.)
 6. God says "This is My Beloved Son, Hear Him!" Matt 17:5
- B. How well do we listen?
 1. Do we take the time to read the Word of God?
 2. David did, and praised it highly Psa 19:7-11; 119:97-105
 3. Have more of God's Word than David, shall we not read it?
 4. It was written to produce faith in Jesus Jhn 20:30-31
- C. If we open our ears to Word, we will say "I believe in Jesus!"

III. GOD SPEAKS LOUDLY THROUGH HIS SON

- A. God now speaks through His Son Jesus Heb 1:1-2
 1. Jesus is God manifested in flesh Heb 1:3; Jhn 1:1-4, 14-18

2. The life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus have changed history
 3. Through His Son, God says "This is who I Am, this is what I desire of you"
- B. Do we listen to what Jesus reveals about God? Jhn 14:6-9
 1. Do we heed warnings about eternal life? Matt 7:13-14, 21-23
 3. Jesus said: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" Mk 4:9
 4. If we will but listen to Jesus, we will say "You have the words of eternal life!" Jhn 6:68
 - C. God not only sent Jesus into world, but also sent His disciples

IV. GOD SPEAKS LOUDLY THROUGH HIS PEOPLE

- A. Disciples given a great commission Matt 28:19; Mk 16:15-16
 1. Their duty as people of God: proclaim His praises 1Pet 2:9-10
 2. Proclaim His message in word and deed, proving what is the good, acceptable, and perfect will of God Rom 12:1-2
 3. Their love & unity are to speak powerful messages to world
 - a. Love for one another shows they are Christ's disciples Jhn 13:34-35
 - b. Unity shows God loves us and sent His Son into the world (Lord prayed for unity) Jhn 17:20-23
 4. Through His people, God says "I love you, and sent My Son to save you!"
- B. Do we listen? Their message has gone out into the world, today everyone has the opportunity to hear God through the lives and words of His people Rom 10:18; Col 1:23
 1. Do we notice transformation in lives of disciples? 1Pet 2:12
 2. Are we willing to listen to good news they shared? Acts 17:11
 3. If we will give attention to their word, we will say "What shall we do?" Acts 2:37

CONCLUSION

- A. My contention is that God has spoken loudly... Through His Creation; His Word; His Son; His People;
- B. Through such 'voices' God has spoken loud and clear
- C. Those who fail to hear "The Clarion Voices Of God" are those Jesus described in Matt 13:15 (ears dull of hearing)
- D. Sadly, many refuse to hear the voices of God
- E. As the Psalmist wrote, fools say there is no God Psa 14:1; and it is the wicked who do not seek Him Psa 10:4; Isa 55:6-7
- F. Are you willing to seek Him, and to heed "The Clarion Voices Of God"...?