Hearing God's Voice

John 10:4-5, 27

- 4 And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know <u>his voice</u>.
- 5 And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.
- 27 <u>My sheep hear my voice</u>, and I know them, and they follow me:
- 1 Corinthians 14:10

There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification (a meaning)

Hearing God's Voice

- 1. You will <u>always do</u> what is right and what is best for yourself and others when you follow the Lord's voice.
- 2. Anyone who <u>did not do</u> what is right and what is best for themselves and others got there because they listened to or followed the wrong voice and made a bad decision.
- In every decision you are called to make and in every situation that you are faced with there is the possibility of <u>many kinds of voices</u> speaking to you.

Many Kinds of Voices

- 1. The voices come into your mind in the form of a thought:
 - a. <u>thoughts</u> create feelings
 - b. <u>feelings</u> fuel desires
 - c. <u>desires</u> can be good or bad (lusts)

(Lusts are bad desires within us from the flesh that are inconsistent with the Word of God)

This is why the Bible says:

- to bring into captivity every thought
- think on these things
- make no provision for your flesh to fail to fulfill the lusts thereof
- renew your mind
- 2. The voices can come into your thoughts directly or indirectly

Many Kinds of Voices

1 Corinthians 14:10 There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification (a meaning)

VOICES

- 1. The voice of God's Spirit
- 2. The voice of <u>your spirit</u>
- 3. The voice of your conscience
- 4. The voice of your reasoning
- 5. The voice of your flesh
- 6. The voice of the <u>devil/demons</u>

Things That Must Be In Place In Your Life

You must:

- 1. Study the Word of God for yourself, (II Timothy 2:15)
- 2. Meditate on the Word of God day and night, (Joshua 1:8)
- 3. Spend time praying, (Mark 1:35)
- 4. Spend time communing with the Holy Spirit, (II Corinthians 13:14)
- 5. Be planted in a good church home, (See Psalm 92:13)
- 6. Count the cost of all options, (Luke 14:28-30)
- 7. Seek counsel from wise counselors, (See Proverbs 11:14)

The Voice of God

Instruction in righteousness, II Tim 3:16 Correction in righteousness, II Timothy 3:16, Proverb 3:11,12 Causes you to profit and bear fruit in Christ, II Timothy 3:16, John 15:16 Brings to your remembrance the Word of God, John 14:26 Guides you into Truth, John 16:13 Exhorts you, Jude 3, Romans 12:1 Comforts you, John 14:16, Psalm 23:4 Rebukes and reproves you, Titus 1:13, II Timothy 4:2 **Convicts you of sin, Romans 6:1-23** Leads you to salvation, Romans 10:9-10, II Timothy 3:15 Assures you of the Father's love toward you, I John 3:1, Jeremiah 31:3 Admonishes and warns you, Ephesians 6:4, Acts 21:4,10-14 Edifies you, Ephesians 4:12 Increases our faith, Romans 10:17 Causes you to triumph in life through Christ, II Corinthians 2:14 Agrees with His Word Hebrews 1:1-3 Never causes confusion 1 Corinthians 14:33 Speaks peace Psalm 85:8 Never torments 1 John 4:18 Has no darkness in it 1 John 1:5

The Voice of Your Spirit

- 1. Job 32:8 But there is <u>a spirit in man</u>: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.
- 2. 1 Kings 19:11,12 And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake: 12 And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.
- 3. 2 Corinthians 2:13 ... I had no rest in my spirit...
- 4. 1 Peter 3:4 ... the hidden man of the heart
- 5. Galatians 5:22,23 But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, ...
- 6. Philippians 4:8 ... Whatsoever things are true, ... honest, ... just, ... pure, ... lovely, ... good report, ... virtue, ... praise, ...

The Voice of Your Conscience

- 1. A good conscience 1 Timothy 1:5; Acts 24:15
- 2. A weak conscience 1 Corinthians 8:7
- 3. A seared conscience 1 Timothy 4:2
- 4. An evil conscience Hebrews 10:22
- 5. A defiled conscience Titus 1:15

Needs fully informed and enlightened by the Word of God then obeyed

The Voice of Reasoning

- 1. Reasoning is mind's mental ability to draw conclusions, judgments, and inferences; to think logically
- 2. 2 Corinthians 10:4 uses the word "imaginations"
- 3. It is the Greek word "logismos" from the root word "logizomai" and means: to reason, calculate, estimate, infer, suppose, think, to take an inventory; weigh; to deliberate; decide; or determine
- 4. Examples of faulty reasoning
 - a. Mark 2:6,8
 - b.Luke 12:17 ...thought within himself...
 - c. Luke 20:14
 - d. Acts 28:4,6
- 5. Acts 17:2 reasoned with them out of the Scriptures

The Voice of Your Flesh

- **Adultery** unlawful sexual relations with the spouse of another (1) (2)
 - Fornication illicit sexual intercourse; all sexual immorality, incest, pornography, harlotry...
- (3)**Uncleanness** – moral filthiness; homosexuality, lesbianism, pedophilia, any sexual perversion
- (4)Lasciviousness – uncontrolled passions or desires; absence of restraint; no feeling of shame; shameless conduct; indecency; lewdness; wantonness
- **Idolatry** pre-eminence/worship given to sports stars, preachers, (5) movie stars, music icons, celebrities, money over God
- (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) Witchcraft - sorcery, drug use, spells, luck charms, horoscopes...
 - Hatred personal hostility toward someone; hold grudges, malice
 - Variance to quarrel with words, stir up strife and incite debates **Emulations** - jealousy, rivalry spirit; desire what others have
 - Wrath outbursts of anger; hot anger; passion; agitated feelings
- Strife rivalries; factions; denotes ambition, self-seeking (tries to win (11) followers and stir up group antagonism); rivalry
- Seditions dissensions; division; lit. "a standing apart" (12)
- (13)Heresies - a self-willed opinion, which is substituted for submitting to truth that causes discord/division/separation
- **Envying** displeasure at what others have; desires to deprive it (14) (15)
 - **Murder** the act of murder; to spoil or mar the reputation of others
- **Drunkenness** public/private intoxication, alcoholic, addicted to it
- **Revelings** partying, clubs, house parties, carousing, rioting that often comes as a consequence of drunkenness

Voice of the devil/demons

Deceive you, (Revelation 20:7-8) Cause oppression, (Acts 10:38) **Discourage you, (Numbers 32:6-10)** Cause you to be bitter, (Colossians 3:19) Cause confusion, (Acts 19:32) Cause you to rationalize sin, (Isaiah 5:20) Blind your mind, (II Corinthians 4:4) Cause you to lie, (I John 2:4) Cause you to doubt God's Word, (Hebrews 3:12) Cause division in your family, church, business, (Mark 3:25) Cause you to disobey the Word of God, (Joshua 5:6) Inspire rage, anger and malice, (Ephesians 4:31) Bring you fear, (Mark 4:40) Torment you, (Matthew 8:6) Cause you to lose hope, (Job 7:1-15) Cause you to be dismayed, (gloominess of soul) (Joshua 1:9) Cause you to seek revenge, (Ezekiel 25:15) Cause you to curse God, (Job 2:9) Stir up unforgiveness, reminding of the offence or injustice (Matthew 6:15) Cause you to be ashamed of the gospel, (Mark 8:38) Cause you not to hear God's voice, (distract, divert), (John 10:5) Lead you astray, off course, offer a substitute (Matthew 4:1-10)