

LISTEN TO THE SPIRIT CALL

Soft as a breeze going across the earth, a whisper in the ear is the voice of the Holy Spirit calling you and me, ever so gentle and peacefully His voice echoes in our inmost being- our spirit. Elijah, while running away for his life from Queen Jezabel heard that voice coming in a soft wind. The Lord told him to go out to stand on the mount before Him. And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains and broke 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; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire [a sound of gentle stillness and] small voice. When Elijah heard the voice, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave... (I Kings 19:11-13a). For Elijah to hear the Lord's gentle voice, he had to be in the right place, that is, the place the Lord ordered him to be. In the quietness of a cave, Elijah defined the voice of God. The Lord God was not in the strong wind, not in the earthquake, neither in the fire; but He was in a "gentle, stillness and small voice." The prophet Elijah, after winning a great victory over Jezabel's false prophets, was running away, afraid of her, who intended to kill him. Hungry and tired from a great conflict over Jezabel's false prophets, whom were all killed, he desired to die. But God had other plan for him, for Elijah was not to taste death. He was to be taken to heaven alive, as Enoch did.

When the Holy Spirit first came to earth, He came in a sound from heaven like the rushing of a violent tempest blast, and it filled the whole house in which they were sitting; and there appeared to them tongues resembling fire, which were separated and distributed and which settled on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit kept giving them clear and loud expression (Acts 2:2-4). The Holy Spirit expressed His power in that day, when He came down to establish YAHSHUA'S church. That was the manifestation of His presence on earth; confirming to all the arrival of His long promised coming. All experienced His power in that place and the tongues of fire. Fire speaks of cleansing. He came to convict the world of sin. Also to abide in every born-again person, fulfilling the words of YAHSHUA to the disciples, when He said, I will not leave you orphans. I will come back to you (John 15:18). The Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of Truth; the world will not receive Him, as it hates truth, as it did not receive YAHSHUA, Who is the Way the Truth and the Life. There is a difference between those who know YAHSHUA, and those who don't. The evidence is on hearing His voice. YAHSHUA said, My sheep hears My voice. His presence in every believer, shows the difference in our lifestyle. Paul calls us sons of light. As sons and daughters of light, we walk according to the dictates of the Holy Spirit, while those of the world, according to the dictates of the flesh.

Only those who know His voice will be able to hear Him. His voice is distinctive from other voices. He will never lead us astray; for He is our guide, our intercessor, His is the voice of the true Shepherd. He is ever present with us in every circumstance. Following His voice, we will never lose focus of Him. He uses the Word of God to communicate with us, as YAHSHUA said, He will testify regarding Me (John 15:26b). David said, I hid [His] word in my heart, so that I will

not sin against Him. Walking in the light as He is the light, we are in pursuit of a righteous living, according to His Word. The Holy Spirit's voice is found in love, in joy, in peace, in patience, in kindness, in goodness, in faithfulness, in gentleness, in self-control. If we live by the [Holy] Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit (Gal. 5:22—23,25). These comprise the fruit of the Holy Spirit. Our behavior reflects if we are hearing His voice or not.

The closer we are to Him, the clearer we will hear His voice. With certainty of belief, we will make decisions in agreement with the will of God. Where there is confusion and doubt of the mind, the Holy Spirit is not part of that. We can easily be persuaded by deceiving spirits, when our minds are not set on what is above, but on what is on earth. Paul exhorted us to let the word [spoken by] Christ have its home in [our hearts and minds]; let the word dwell in us in richness, as we walk with Him. Whatever we do in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord YAHSHUA, giving praise to God the Father through Him. (Col. 3). This way of living, demonstrates the dwelling of the Holy Spirit in us; it demonstrates a heart that is ready to hear the Holy Spirit calling. God asks the question, Can two people walk together without agreeing first? (Amos 3:3). Unless we agree to walk with God, we will never hear the voice of the Holy Spirit. He convicts us through our conscience. Hardening our heart toward His conviction, we will be given to the desires of our flesh for perdition. This is an act of judgement from God, since men chose not to acknowledge Him, neither to hear the voice of His Spirit. The Israelites that died in the wilderness, chose not to mingle the word they heard with faith and were doomed. They did not believe what they witnessed, they refused to hear the voice of God through Moses, and were left in the desert without reaching the Promised Land. The Bible says, Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion [of Israel] and their provocation and embitterment in the day of testing in the wilderness, where their fathers tried [My patience] and tested [My forbearance] and found I stood their test, and they saw My works for forty years, and so, I was provoked with that generation, and said, They always err and are led astray in their hearts, and they have not perceived or recognized My ways and become progressively better and more experimentally and intimately acquainted with them. Accordingly, I swore in My wrath and indignation, They shall not enter into My rest (Heb.3:7-11).

This is a message of warning to all- believers and non-believers. There is a set time when the door will close to those whose hearts continue hardening toward Him. The Holy Spirit must not be quenched, ignored and saddened by men, without consequences. His voice is ever so soft and gentle; He is ever so patient, waiting for us to hear and respond to His call. Egypt is symbolic of the world. The Holy Spirit continuously calls us out of it into fellowship with Him. Out of darkness into the light of truth. [Therefore, beware] brethren, take care, lest there be in any one of you a wicked, unbelieving heart, leading you to turn away and desert or stand aloof from the living God (Heb. 3:12). It is the desire of our Lord that none perish, but that each one come to salvation. Hear the Holy Spirit's voice, while there is still time and the Light still shines in every heart. Eternity is a for a long time in neither place- heaven or hell, depending if your heart is willing to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit or not.

We all have been warned. What will come next will be judgment for those of us who refuse to hear the calling to repentance, in order to be saved. YAHSHUA bought men with His precious

blood; a price no one could offer. It is still available and always will be to all whomsoever will come to Him.

There will be celebration in the presence of God for every sinner that turns to God. Heaven will rejoice even for only one person that repents, for God created us not to condemn us, but to have relationship with Him. The Bible tells us that as the heavens are high above the earth, so great are His mercy and loving-kindness toward us (Ps. 103:11). My friend, today if you hear His voice do not turn away from Him, but listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit. Eternity awaits you - heaven or hell.

THINK ABOUT IT!