



How God Speaks Today Matthew 7:24-27

If you have listened to religious radio or TV, you've probably heard someone say, "The Lord spoke to me and said . . .," or "Let God speak to your heart . . .," suggesting that God speaks _____ to people today. Other people think that the _____ they possess are evidence of God's will for their lives.

We are asking, "How does God speak to us today?" We believe the Bible is God's revelation of _____ for us today – God speaks through Christ (Hebrews 1:1-2). God gave all authority to Christ, who promised the Holy Spirit to the apostles and prophets to guide them into all the truth and they _____ this truth into the pages of the New Testament.

The church is _____ to Jesus, not to any man or any council (Ephesians 1:20-23). Jesus said before He ascended into heaven "_____ authority" had been given to Him (Matthew 28:18). Jesus doesn't need a representative on earth, because He himself is the _____ of His church on earth. We shall be judged one day by the _____ of Jesus (John 12:48-49). We will be judged by the words of Jesus found in the _____; and not by opinion polls, the creeds of men, or some denomination's beliefs.

Jesus, by the Holy Spirit, gave His _____ the Word that His Father had given Him (John 14:25-26). God determined that the words that He had given Jesus would be _____ by the Spirit to the apostles for their time and for all time. God "in these last days has spoken to us in His Son," that is, God is speaking to us through the _____. We are led by the Spirit today, not through some special revelation, but through the _____ of the apostles and prophets of Jesus Christ in the New Testament (John 16:12-15). Jude, who wrote sometime between 65 and 80 AD, was already speaking of "the _____," that is, the body of doctrine, which was "once for all time" handed down to the saints. The writers of the New Testament spoke with the _____ of God (1 Corinthians 2:12-13). Paul said that what he taught did not come from men but from the Holy Spirit, God was _____ his teachings and his writings. That's why we can say that Paul said this or that, or we can say that God said this or that, because both statements are _____; because whatever Paul wrote God led him to write. In fact, the apostle Paul warns everyone to stay with this gospel and not to _____ it; that anyone who changes his gospel risks losing his soul and the souls of those he teaches (Galatians 1:6-10). God's written Word is _____ and unchangeable. When you get away from the Bible you get away from _____ (1 Thessalonians 2:13, 15).

With so many _____, so many denominations, so many non-denominational churches saying so many different things, we must ask, "do they really all speak for God?" When they contradict themselves and _____ with each other, are they really from God? The Lord Jesus distinguishes people by how they _____ and follow His Word (John 8:31-32). To continue in Jesus' word means to remain, or to abide, or to stay there, and Jesus said "_____ " disciples do that. It is not speaking religious language or doing religious things that make us _____ with God. A true Christian is one that _____ and _____ the will of the Father who is in heaven (Matthew 7:21-23).

The best thing we can do is _____ God's Word every day and see whether or not the things that we are hearing at church are so. Don't be led astray by people who have moved away from God's word and teach their own _____. Stay with the _____, and stay with _____. It's very easy for us to become neglectful and _____ away from the things that we have heard in the Scriptures (Hebrews 2:1-3). It's the Scriptures where the _____ is; go to the Word of God for the Truth!