## He that Hath an Ear, Let Him Hear

The Son of God was in complete unity with His Father as John recorded in his Gospel: "the Word was God" (1:1); "I and my Father are one" (10:30); "the Father is in me, and I in him" (10:38); "he that hath seen me hath seen the Father ... I am in the Father, and the Father in me" (14:9,10); "thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee ... we are one" (17:21,22). He always did the will of His Father: "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me" (4:34); "I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me" (5:30); "not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me" (6:38); "I do always those things that please him" (8:29). And He always spoke what His Father had sent Him to speak: "he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God" (3:34); "My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me" (7:16); "as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things" (8:28); "I speak that which I have seen with my Father" (8:38); "For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak" (12:49); "the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself" (14:10); "I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me" (17:8).

God the Father sent His Son into this world to do and speak as He had been sent. Therefore, to be right with God we must fully submit to His Son—obey what He commanded and agree with what He taught. Our only hope is listening to God's Son. But if we won't listen to Him, we're completely hopeless.

Jesus Christ concluded His Sermon on the Mount with an analogy of two men that both built houses. One house stood because its builder was wise and started with a foundation while the other collapsed because its builder was foolish and didn't. The correlation of this story is that "whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them ... every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not" (Mat 7:24-27). His message is clear—salvation is by obedience to Him. If we'll obey what He taught in His Sermon we'll be saved, but if we won't obey Him we'll perish. Paul and James both reiterated this, "For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified" (Rom 2:13), "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves" (Jas 1:22). We must listen to the Son of God and do what He said to be saved.

The Son taught this about the worship of God His Father, "But the hour cometh, and now is, when **the true worshippers** shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for **the Father seeketh such to worship him.** God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him <u>must</u> worship *him* in spirit and in truth." (Jhn 4:23-24). Because God sought true worshippers, He sent His Son to teach the truth about Him. Since His Son lived and suffered and died for the truth He was sent to teach, do we suppose God will accept anything otherwise? Why subject His Son to horrible suffering and death for that end purpose only to later fudge on it? That the Son said we MUST worship His Father in truth, then we MUST. If we can be saved with a false view of God such as the Trinity, then Christ lived and died in vain.

In the Son of God's parable of the Sower, He is the Sower preaching the truth to people's hearts. And He declared, "Who hath ears to hear, let him hear" (Mat 13:9), "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear" (Mar 4:9; Luk 8:8). Obviously, "to hear" doesn't mean to have sound waves vibrate over the ear drums. It's to heed, mind, and take to heart what is heard; to submit, succumb, and surrender to it. The Son later said to all seven churches in Asia, "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit [breath] saith unto the churches" (Rev 2:7,11,17,29, 3:6,13,22). Essentially, He was saying, "If you hear anything, you had better listen to what I'm telling you!"

The Son of God stated before His death, "Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice" (Jhn 18:37), "Everyone on the side of truth listens to me" (NIV). And John later wrote, "We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth [breath], and the spirit [breath] of error" (1Jo 4:6). How do we know if we're "of God" or not, if we belong to Him or not? It's simple. Do we listen to His Son and His apostles or not? Those on the other side of the truth, speak against it: "spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming" (Act 13:45); "they opposed themselves, and blasphemed" (Act 18:6); "spake evil of that way before the multitude" (Act 19:9); "them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved" (2Th 2:10); "resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith" (2Ti 3:8); "he hath greatly withstood our words" (2Ti 4:15); "the way of truth shall be evil spoken of" (2Pe 2:2). We MUST listen to the Son of God for any hope of salvation. If we won't listen to Him, we're completely hopeless.