

1 SAMUEL 3:8-10 – SPEAK, FOR YOUR SERVANT HEARTS!

5/5/18 Sat Morn Prayer – P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com

SPEAK, LORD IN THE STILLNESS – Hymn #5 - E. May Grimes – Harold Green

*1 Speak, Lord, in the stillness while I wait on Thee; hushed my heart to listen in expectancy.
2 Speak, O blessed Master, in this quiet hour; let me see Thy face, Lord, feel Thy touch of power.
3 For the words Thou speakest, Lord, they are life indeed; living bread from heaven, now my spirit feed!
4 All to Thee is yielded, I am not my own; blissful, glad surrender, I am Thine alone.
5 Fill me with the knowledge of Thy glorious will; all Thine own good pleasure in my life fulfill.
6 Like "a watered garden" Full of fragrance rare Linger in Thy presence Let my life appear. Amen*

1Sa 3:8-10 *And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. So he arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you did call me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD had called the boy. [9] Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and it shall be, if He calls you, that you must say, 'Speak, LORD, for Your servant hears.' " So Samuel went and lay down in his place. [10] Now the LORD came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears."*

The Biblical Setting: His call from the Lord (1Sa 3:1-10)

Tradition states that Samuel was about twelve years old at this time. He had grown up in the presence of the Lord and learned to serve in His tabernacle, yet he did not have a personal experience with the Lord (1Sa 3:7). How important it is for those who are raised in Christian homes to make their own personal decisions for Christ. Samuel had filled the lampstand with oil; it was close to daybreak and the lamp was about to go out. Samuel was sleeping and the Lord called him. He first thought was that blind Eli needed his help, so he ran to him. (See how quickly he was to obey when called.) 1Sa 3:4-10 records Samuel's conversation: "***Speak, Lord, for your servant hears.***" Later on, God would say to Samuel, "***Speak servant, for your Lord hears!***" For Samuel became a great man of prayer.

1Sa 3:8 *And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. So he arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you did call me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD had called the boy.*

And the Lord called Samuel again the third time,.... In the same manner he had done before, expressing his name no doubt:

and he arose and went to Eli, and said, here am I, for you did call me; as if he should say, it must certainly be so, I cannot be mistaken a third time:

and Eli perceived that the Lord had called the boy; Eli was now satisfied now that Samuel must have heard a voice. He knew there was no man in the tabernacle but himself, and therefore it must be the voice of the Lord out of the most holy place; and he had formerly been acquainted with such voices, and used to them, and now called them to mind.

Then Eli perceived. Eli was slow to recognize that God was calling Samuel. This indicates that Eli's spiritual perception likely was not what it should have been as the priest and judge of Israel.

1Sa 3:9 *Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and it shall be, if He calls you, that you must say, 'Speak, LORD, for Your servant hears.' " So Samuel went and lay down in his place.*

Speak, LORD, for Your servant hears: Samuel is given wise counsel by Eli, who tells Samuel to make himself available for God to speak (***Go, lie down***). He tells Samuel not to be presumptuous about God speaking (***if He calls you***); he tells Samuel to *respond* to the word of God (***Speak, LORD***); and he tells Samuel to *humble* himself before God and His word (***for Your servant hears***).

Speak, LORD: We must hear from God. The preacher may speak, our parents may speak, our friends may speak, our teachers may speak, people on the radio or television may speak. That is all fine, but their voices mean nothing for eternity unless God speaks through them.

1Sa 3:10 *Now the LORD came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears."*

God's message to Samuel. Samuel responds just as Eli told him.

Now the LORD came and stood and called: Because it seems to have been an audible voice, and because it says the LORD **stood**, it may be that this was a unique appearing of the LORD to Samuel, perhaps in the person of Jesus.

"Let him hear" is used often in the bible. In the New Testament, that phrase is given to us four times in Matthew; three times in Mark and in Luke; and eight time in the book of the Revelation.

SUMMARY:

- **Is the Lord calling us today?**
- **Are our hearts in agreement by saying, "Speak Lord, your servant hears or is listening"!**
- **Am I a good listener to my Lord?**
- **How attentive are we to His call?**
- **How obedient are we to His call and willing to act as instructed?**
- **Is He calling us through His word? *Psa 119:18 Open my eyes, that I may see Wondrous things from Your law.***
- ***"Samuel, told him everything"!* Are we willing to declare the whole counsel of God? To reveal all of God's Word, even those passages which are difficult to hear?**

Pray Today For: Our Church, Nationally/locally; Our Nation: Our leaders; Police officers/military. Supreme Ct.

Please Note: You may see/download past notes/audio of the Bible Prayer Devotionals by going to: www.ptwente.com