

## THE VOICE OF THE LORD

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The voice of the Lord gathers and directs the church of Christ. Moses had two trumpets that were blown to gather and then direct the nation of Israel.

*(Numbers 10:1-2 NKJV)*

*1 And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying:2 "Make two silver trumpets for yourself; you shall make them of hammered work; you shall use them for calling the congregation and for directing the movement of the camps*

The voice of Christ is like a great trumpet

*(Revelation 1:10 KJV)*

*10 I was in the **Spirit** on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a **great voice**, as of a trumpet,*

A "great" voice is a voice of loudness, weight, authority and intensity. Voice of an elder or of a father. Such a voice can only be perceived and heard in the Spirit.

*(Revelation 2:7 NKJV)*

*7 " He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."*

### GREEK: Voice - Phōnē

g5456. φωνή phōnē; probably akin to 5316 through the idea of disclosure; a tone (articulate, bestial or artificial); by implication, an address (for any purpose), saying or language:— noise, sound, voice.

AV (141)- voice 131, sound 8, be noised abroad +g1096 1, noise 1; a sound, a tone of inanimate things, as musical instruments a voice of the sound of uttered words speech of a language, tongue (STRONG)

g5316. φαίνω phainō; prolongation for the base of 5457; to lighten (shine), i. e. show (transitive or intransitive, literal or figurative):— appear, seem, be seen, shine, x think.

AV (31)- appear 17, shine 10, be seen 2, seem 1, think 1; to bring forth into the light, cause to shine, shed light shine to shine, be bright or resplendent to become evident, to be brought forth into the light, come to view, appear of growing vegetation, to come to light to appear, be seen exposed to view to meet the eyes, strike the sight, become clear or manifest to be seen, appear to appear to the mind, seem to one's judgment or opinion (STRONG)

g5457. φῶς phōs; from an obsolete φάω phaō ( to shine or make manifest, especially by rays; compare 5316, 5346); luminousness ( in the widest application, natural or artificial, abstract or concrete, literal or figurative): — fire, light.

AV ( 70)- light 68, fire 2; light the light emitted by a lamp a heavenly light such as surrounds angels when they appear on earth anything emitting light a star fire because it is light and sheds light a lamp or torch light, i. e brightness of a lamp metaph. God is light because light has the extremely delicate, subtle, pure, brilliant quality of truth and its knowledge, together with the spiritual purity associated with it that which is exposed to the view of all, openly, publicly reason, mind the power of understanding esp. moral and spiritual truth (STRONG)

The voice of the Lord makes manifest, enlightens or illuminates. This comes because the voice brings understanding causing the word to become a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path. The voice is a steward of the mysteries of God. This is an unfolding of the secrets of the Kingdom of God that have been hidden. Such secrets become revealed because of the voice of the Lord.

When the church hears the voice of the Lord it gathers to receive direction. The entire movement of Israel was determined by the trumpeting of Moses' voice. Christ is the inner voice of the Spirit that allows the hearer to have a witness that God is speaking through a voice.

The sheep hear the voice of their shepherd

*(John 10:2-5 NKJV)*

*2 But he who enters by the **door** is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 To him the **doorkeeper** opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. 5 Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers*

The door is Jesus

*(John 10:7 NKJV)*

*7 Then Jesus said to them again, " Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep*

*(John 10:9 NKJV)*

*9 I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture*

Father is the doorkeeper - He is the Master of the house

*(Luke 13:24-25 NKJV)*

*24 " Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able. 25 When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open for us,' and He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know you, where you are from,'*

The shepherd is the Pastor or Father of the house and the sheep are the followers. The sheep hears the voice of the shepherd who calls his own sheep by name. This speaks of relationship and intimacy. Sheep will follow the shepherd as he brings them out because they know his voice. They will not follow strangers who have no relationship and intimacy with the sheep. The sheep and the shepherd go through the door who is Christ and He leads them to green pastures and still waters.

As sheep follow the voice of the shepherd every door will open because Christ is the door of the sheep.

Israel was once scattered but now will be gathered as a remnant to shepherds that will be a voice to them. They will be led into green pastures where they will be fed. Such is the case of the church today. There are many thieves and robbers masquerading as pastors but God will expose and destroy them.

*(Jeremiah 23:3-4 NKJV)*

*3 "But I will gather the remnant of My flock out of all countries where I have driven them, and bring them back to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. 4 I will set up shepherds over them who will feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, nor shall they be lacking," says the Lord*

Nothing happens without the voice of the Lord. We need to understand the signature qualities associated with the voice of the Lord.

*(Psalms 29:1-2 NKJV)*

*1 Give unto the Lord, O you mighty ones, Give unto the Lord glory and strength.*

*2 Give unto the Lord the glory due to His name; Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness*

We ascribe glory and strength to the Lord and we worship Him because of the great voice that He is to us. As mighty ones (Isa 13:3), sanctified ones (Isa 13:3) and anointed ones (Ps 105:15) we give God all the glory simply because of His voice that gathers and directs us.

Adoration is given to Our God because we value the substance in the voice of the Lord

## **1. VOICE OF THE LORD**

*(Psalms 29:3 NKJV)*

*3 The voice of the Lord is over the waters;*

*The God of glory thunders;*

*The Lord is over many waters*

It is the voice of the Lord and this refers to the supremacy of His voice. It is not the voice of man but the voice of the Lord. This voice is above any other voice. It has all authority and power and is resourced from the heavens. It represents a Kingdom that is above all other kingdoms on the earth. It is the great voice of the Lord. This voice supersedes the voice of any doctor, specialist or physician. Such voices are limited to the wisdom that is from beneath but the voice of the Lord has access to the wisdom that is from above. It comes from the tree of life, it flows from the river of life and dispenses eternal life. There is no other voice that can drown out, blast out or sound out this voice.

It is the voice that thunders to express what is in the heavens.

*(Job 37:1-5 NKJV)*

*1 "At this also my heart trembles,*

*And leaps from its place.*

*2 Hear attentively the thunder of His voice,*

*And the rumbling that comes from His mouth.*

*3 He sends it forth under the whole heaven,*

*His lightning to the ends of the earth.*

*4 After it a voice roars;*

*He thunders with His majestic voice,*

*And He does not restrain them when His voice is heard.*

*5 God thunders marvelously with His voice;*

*He does great things which we cannot comprehend*

When we hear the thunder in His voice then we know there is a storm brewing. When God's voice thunders He does things which no one can comprehend. It is beyond the human and the natural it unleashes the substance of another realm.

When Jesus' voice trumpeted from the cross, the whole earth began to shake.

*(Matthew 27:50-52 NKJV)*

*50 And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.*

*51 Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, 52 and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised*

This voice tore the veil and made a way to come boldly to the throne of God. There was an earthquake and the graves were opened. The dead in Christ began to rise at the voice of the Lord. There was an awakening of that which is dead by the voice of the Lord. The dead womb of Sarah was awakened by the voice of the Lord.

The voice of the Lord is supreme over all things. It is expressed through dreams, visions, manifestations and most importantly through human officiation. It is not the voice of any human being but one who is chosen to be the voice of the Lord to express what is in the heavens and to release the will of God.

## **2. OVER THE WATERS**

*(Psalms 29:3 NKJV)*

*3 The voice of the Lord is over the waters;*

*The God of glory thunders;*

*The Lord is over many waters*

When waters covered the earth there was no form or shape and it was void

*(Genesis 1:2 NKJV)*

*2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.*

The Spirit of God was hovering over the waters waiting for a voice. When God spoke, suddenly that which was void, without form and filled with darkness comes alive. The voice of the Lord is over the waters of our lives. To be over is to cover. The voice of the Lord carries authority that can cover or be over that which is dark and void. When the voice releases the substance from within it begins to release light to the darkness and form to that which is void.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters to make the waters of Egypt turn to blood and the waters of the Red Sea to swallow the Egyptian. His voice causes the waters of Jordan to stop so that the people of God can cross over. The voice of the Lord is over the waters to shift one from ankle depth to waters to swim in.

Water in the city needs the voice of the Lord. Water is a source of life. When there is barrenness it is the voice of Lord that can heal the water.

*(2 Kings 2:19-22 NKJV)*

*19 Then the men of the city said to Elisha, "Please notice, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord sees; but the water is bad, and the ground barren."*

*20 And he said, "Bring me a new bowl, and put salt in it." So they brought it to him. 21 Then he went out to the source of the water, and cast in the salt there, and said, "Thus says the Lord: 'I have healed this water; from it there shall be no more death or barrenness.' " 22 So the water remains healed to this day, according to the word of Elisha which he spoke*

New bowl speaks of a new structure, new system, a new container. Salt is a preservative and is a metaphor of covenant.

*(Numbers 18:19 NKJV)*

*19 "All the heave offerings of the holy things, which the children of Israel offer to the Lord, I have given to you and your sons and daughters with you as an ordinance forever; it is a covenant of salt forever before the Lord with you and your descendants with you*

The house of David had dominion because of the covenant of salt

*(2 Chronicles 13:4-5 NKJV)*

*4 Then Abijah stood on Mount Zemaraim, which is in the mountains of Ephraim, and said, "Hear me, Jeroboam and all Israel:5 Should you not know that the Lord God of Israel gave the dominion over Israel to David forever, to him and his sons, by a covenant of salt*

In order for the water to be healed it needs a new bowl with salt. Covenant breaks barrenness. This instruction comes from the voice of the Lord.

Waters also speak of peoples, multitudes, nations and tongues

*(Revelation 17:15 NKJV)*

*15 Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.*

The voice of the Lord is supreme over the nations of the earth.

*(Psalms 2:1-5 NKJV)*

*1 Why do the nations rage,  
And the people plot a vain thing?  
2 The kings of the earth set themselves,  
And the rulers take counsel together,  
Against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying,  
3 "Let us break Their bonds in pieces  
And cast away Their cords from us."  
4 He who sits in the heavens shall laugh;  
The Lord shall hold them in derision.  
5 Then He shall speak to them in His wrath,  
And distress them in His deep displeasure*

*(Psalms 47:7-8 NKJV)*

*For God is the King of all the earth;  
Sing praises with understanding.  
8 God reigns over the nations;  
God sits on His holy throne*

The voice of the Lord reigns over the nations. The church is the Holy Nation that is in every nation and have become to voice of the Lord to that nation.

### **3. POWERFUL**

*(Psalms 29:4 NKJV)*

*4 The voice of the Lord is powerful;*

Power is generally associated with manifestations. The voice of the Lord is in the manifestation therefore the voice is powerful.

*(Exodus 3:2-4 NKJV)*

*1 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 And the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. 3 Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn."  
4 So when the Lord saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!"  
And he said, "Here I am*

The manifestation does not contain power it simply gets attention. When the voice speaks from within the manifestation then power is released. Power is not released without authority. The voice carries authority to release power. God spoke to Moses from within the manifestation.

#### **HEBREW: Powerful - Kowach**

*h3581. כֹּחַ kôah; or ( Dan. 11: 6) כֹּוַח kowach; from an unused root meaning to be firm; vigor, literally ( force, in a good or a bad sense) or figuratively ( capacity, means, produce); also ( from its hardness) a large lizard: — ability, able, chameleon, force, fruits, might, power (- ful), strength, substance, wealth.*

*AV ( 126)- strength 58, power 47, might 7, force 3, ability 2, able 2, able + h6113 1, chameleon 1, fruits 1, powerful 1, substance 1, wealth 1, weary + h3019 1; strength, power, might human strength strength ( of angels) power ( of God) strength ( of animals) strength, produce, wealth (of soil) a small reptile, probably a kind of lizard, which is unclean perhaps an extinct animal, exact meaning is unknown (STRONG)*

The voice of the Lord has might, force, ability, substance and strength. It gives one the ability to produce.

The voice of the Lord over David shifted him from a shepherd boy to a king. The voice of the Lord over Saul made him Paul the Apostle. The voice of the Lord over Daniel made him the wisest man in Babylon. This is the power in the voice of the Lord.

The word of God is living and powerful

*(Hebrews 4:12 NKJV)*

*12 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two- edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

A voice has to speak to release the word of God. When the word is released through a voice representing the Lord then the voice of the Lord becomes powerful. It is the word that contains the power and not the voice that is speaking. Jesus is the Word of God and He is all powerful. The same power that worked in Jesus to raise Him from the dead is the same power that is working in us.

*Ephesians 1:19-20 (NKJV)*

*19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,*

Such power is released, imparted, conveyed, invested when a voice speaks.

#### **4. FULL OF MAJESTY**

*(Psalms 29:4b NKJV)*

*4b The voice of the Lord is full of majesty.*

Majesty is term used to describe the splendour and glory of God. God is clothed with majesty

*(Psalms 93:1 NKJV)*

*1 The Lord reigns, He is clothed with majesty;*

*The Lord is clothed,*

*He has girded Himself with strength.*

*Surely the world is established, so that it cannot be moved*

The voice of the Lord can bring honour and glory. The voice of the Lord clothes one with the majesty of God. God's clothing wraps us when we hear His voice. To be clothed is to be covered. Adam and Eve were covered with the majesty of God because they communed with God. When they sinned they lost that covering and needed the covering of the natural.

They hid from the voice of the Lord because that was their covering.

*(Genesis 3:8 KJV)*

*8 And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day:and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord*

The true church described in Proverbs is clothed with strength and honour

*(Proverbs 31:25 NKJV)*

*25 Strength and honor are her clothing;*

*She shall rejoice in time to come.*

The voice of the Lord clothes us with what covers God. It is like Ruth being covered with what covered Boaz

Honour and glory is reserved for kings. Majesty is term used to recognise people that are part of a monarchy. We greet royalty as: "Your Majesty". The voice of the Lord is full of royalty. It speaks with such authority of one that governs like a king. It is full of governing authority because the voice represents the King of kings. It confers dominion and power over the one being spoken over.

*(Psalms 8:4-6 NKJV)*

*4 What is man that You are mindful of him,*

*And the son of man that You visit him?*

*5 For You have made him a little lower than the angels,*

*And You have crowned him with glory and honor.*

*6 You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands;*

*You have put all things under his feet*

The voice of the Lord crowns the son of man with majesty giving him dominion and power. The voice brings a shift from the son of man to the son of God. In order for one to come into dominion one must sit under the voice of the Lord that is full of majesty. Samuel was the voice of the Lord over David and he became the king of Israel. Elisha was the voice of the Lord over Jehu and he became the king that deposed Jezebel.

Honour and glory are words that are associated with weight. The voice of the Lord releases words that carry weight. Many sons must come to glory to speak with weight as the voice of the Lord. When a father speaks over a son he speaks words that carry weight. Such words transfers the individual from natural existence to eternal purpose. When Israel spoke over his sons his voice was full of majesty to define the weight of his sons.

*(Hebrews 2:10 NKJV)*

*10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.*

Jesus received majesty from the Father when He spoke as the voice from heaven and declared "this is my beloved Son"

*(2 Peter 1:17-18 KJV)*

*17 For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. 18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount*

The majesty contained in the voice is released when we are declared as "sons of God". It is the Father's voice speaking over a son that confers the majesty. It is a king conferring rulership to his son. It is like David anointing Solomon to be king and to reign in his place.

This voice is distinct in that it comes from the heavens - Aramaic it is "bat qol"

The expression acquired among the rabbis a special use, signifying the Divine voice, audible to man and accompanied by a visible Divine manifestation. Thus conceived, "bat qol" is to be distinguished from God's speaking to Moses and the prophets; for at Sinai the voice of God was part of a larger theophany, while for the prophets it was the resultant inward demonstration of the Divine will, by whatever means effected, given to them to declare. It is further to be distinguished from all natural sounds and voices, even where these were interpreted as conveying Divine instruction (ISBE)

It was first heard over Nebuchadnezzar

*(Daniel 4:31 NKJV)*

*31 While the word was still in the king's mouth, a voice fell from heaven: "King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: the kingdom has departed from you"*

Baptism of Jesus

*(Matthew 3:17 NKJV)*

*17 And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased"*

Transfiguration

*(Matthew 17:5 NKJV)*

*5 While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him"*

Before Jesus went to the cross

*(John 12:28 NKJV)*

*28 Father, glorify Your name."*

*Then a voice came from heaven, saying, "I have both glorified it and will glorify it again"*

Saul's conversion

*(Acts 9:4 NKJV)*

*4 Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me"*

Peter's vision

*(Acts 10:13 NKJV)*

*13 And a voice came to him, "Rise, Peter; kill and eat"*

Such a voice is full of majesty. It is God's divine voice speaking from the heavens to unleash or unlock the will of God to the earth through a son of God. When God the Father said "this is My Beloved Son" there was a clothing of Jesus the Son of Man with the majesty of God. When Jesus walked the earth as the Son of Man, He was clothed with the majesty of His Father. Such a transfer of mantle and anointing comes through the voice of the Lord.

When Elisha cried "My father, my father" he received the mantle of Elijah. He was now clothed with what clothed his father

## **5. BREAKS PRIDE AND REBELLION**

*(Psalms 29:5-6 NKJV)*

*5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars,  
Yes, the Lord splinters the cedars of Lebanon.  
6 He makes them also skip like a calf,  
Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox*

The cedar is known for its resistance and strength in arid conditions. It is tall and weather resistant. It survives in harsh conditions that makes it hard wearing and tough. Lebanon was a beautiful mountain range known for its splendour when it is snow capped. Cedars grew tall on this mountain range and were admired.

One of the metaphors of the cedar tree is pride.

*(Ezekiel 31:3 NKJV)*

*3 Indeed Assyria was a cedar in Lebanon,  
With fine branches that shaded the forest,  
And of high stature;  
And its top was among the thick boughs*

*(Isaiah 2:12-13 NKJV)*

*12 For the day of the Lord of hosts, Shall come upon everything proud and lofty, Upon  
everything lifted up— And it shall be brought low—  
13 Upon all the cedars of Lebanon that are high and lifted up,  
And upon all the oaks of Bashan*

The voice of the Lord breaks and splinters pride. It causes pride to skip and jump like a calf so that it is stamped out. The voice of God in Nathan broke the pride of King David. The voice of the Lord in Elisha broke the pride of Naaman the Syrian. The voice of the Lord broke the pride of Saul on the road to Damascus.

The voice of the Lord broke the pride of Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon.

*(Daniel 4:30-31 NKJV)*

*30 The king spoke, saying, "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for a royal dwelling by my  
mighty power and for the honor of my majesty?" 31 While the word was still in the king's  
mouth, a voice fell from heaven:"King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken:the kingdom has  
departed from you*

Many believers become strong in their faith and rise up like the cedar. Their strength shifts from God to themselves and pride enters their heart. They become resistant to God's word and are unable to receive the word with meekness.

We can also become resistant to the voice of the Lord. This happens when we harden our hearts. Trials and wilderness experience can cause our hearts to become resistant to God's voice. This stirs rebellion in our hearts.

*(Psalms 95:7-8 NKJV)*

*7 For He is our God,*

*And we are the people of His pasture,*

*And the sheep of His hand.*

*Today, if you will hear His voice:*

*8 "Do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion,*

*As in the day of trial in the wilderness*

Pride will lead to rebellion. Rebellion is evidenced by several characteristics

## **RESISTANCE**

### **ENMITY FOR AUTHORITY**

### **BARRENESS**

### **EMOTIONAL IMMATURITY**

### **LACK OF INSIGHT**

### **LICENTIOUS**

### **IDOLATRY**

### **OPINIONATED**

### **NON-CONFORMITY**

## **RESISTANCE**

- Refusal to hear God's word.

- Refusal to take instruction.

*(Jer 5:3 NKJV)*

*O LORD, are not Your eyes on the truth? You have stricken them, but they have not grieved; you have consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction. They have made their faces harder than rock; they have refused to return.*

*(Ezek 2:4-5 NKJV)*

*4 "For they are impudent and stubborn children. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD.' 5 "As for them, whether they hear or whether they refuse-- for they are a rebellious house-- yet they will know that a prophet has been among them.*

## **ENMITY FOR AUTHORITY**

*(Jude 1:8 NKJV)*

*Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries.*

Cannot keep rank. Constant fault finding with authority figures like Korah and Miriam who discredited Moses.

## **BARRENESS**

*(Ps 68:6 NKJV)*

*God sets the solitary in families; he brings out those who are bound into prosperity; but the rebellious dwell in a dry land.*

- RELATIONSHIP FAILURES

Move from church to church.

Cannot sustain friendships for long.

Independent.

Two or more divorce separations.

## - POVERTY

- Lack
- Over indebted

## **EMOTIONAL IMMATURITY**

*(2 Pet 2:10-15 NKJV)*

*10 and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, 11 whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord. 12 But these, like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and will utterly perish in their own corruption, 13 and will receive the wages of unrighteousness, as those who count it pleasure to carouse in the daytime. They are spots and blemishes, carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you, 14 having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, beguiling unstable souls. They have a heart trained in covetous practices, and are accursed children. 15 They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;*

- Become selfish and egocentric.
- Lack sensitivity to the feelings of others.
- May be impulsive.
- Have temper tantrums.
- Seeking for attention, affection and acceptance.

## **LACK OF INSIGHT**

Consider themselves victims. Cannot self-evaluate.

## **LICENTIOUS (No moral discipline - unrestrained)**

*(Rom 1:27-31 NKJV)*

*27 Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. 28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, 30 backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful;(NKJ)*

Often promiscuous.

## **IDOLATROUS**

*(Isa 65:3-4 NKJV)*

*3A people who provoke Me to anger continually to My face; who sacrifice in gardens, and burn incense on altars of brick; 4 Who sit among the graves, and spend the night in the tombs; who eat swine's flesh, and the broth of abominable things is in their vessels;*

## **OPINIONATED**

*(Ps 66:7 NKJV)*

*He rules by His power forever; his eyes observe the nations; do not let the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah*

## **NON-CONFORMITY**

To family value system or local church value system. Lack submission

### **SCRIPTURES REQUIRE SUBMISSION:**

1.) To God

*(James 4:7 NKJV)*

*7 Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.*

2.) To Civil authority

*(Rom 13:1-6 NKJV)*

*1 Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. 2 Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. 4 For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. 5 Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. 6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing.*

3.) To Elders

*(1 Pet 5:5 NKJV)*

*Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."*

*(Heb 13:17 NKJV)*

*Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.*

*(1Thes 5:12-13 NKV)*

*12 And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, 13 and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves.*

4.) To one another

*(1 Pet 5:5 NKJV)*

*Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.*

5.) To spiritual co-labourers

*(1 Cor 16:15-16 NKJV)*

*15 Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the ministry of the saints— 16 that you also submit to such, and to everyone who works and labors with us.*

6.) To the word

*(Deut 5:29 NKJV)*

*'Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!*

*(1 Sam 12:15 NKJV)*

*"However, if you do not obey the voice of the LORD, but rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then the hand of the LORD will be against you, as it was against your fathers.*

7.) To Parents

*(Eph 6:1 NKJV)*

*Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.*

8.) To your calling

*(1 Cor 7:19-24 NKJV)*

*19 Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing, but keeping the commandments of God is what matters. 20 Let each one remain in the same calling in which he was called.*

*21 Were you called while a slave? Do not be concerned about it; but if you can be made free, rather use it. 22 For he who is called in the Lord while a slave is the Lord's freedman. Likewise he who is called while free is Christ's slave. 23 You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men. 24 Brethren, let each one remain with God in that state in which he was called.*

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The supreme voice of the Lord can break pride and the rebellion and bring one to a place of conformity and submission

## **6. DIVIDES FLAMES OF FIRE**

*(Psalms 29:7 NKJV)*

*7 The voice of the Lord divides the flames of fire.*

John the Baptist baptised in water but Jesus baptises us in the Holy Spirit and fire

*(Matthew 3:11-12 NKJV)*

*11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.*

*12 His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire*

We face fiery trials in our lives.

*(1 Peter 1:7 KJV)*

*7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:*

These trials are there to shape and develop us for our eternal purpose on the earth.

## **HEBREW: Divides - חָשַׁב**

h2672. חָשַׁב חָשַׁב; or חָשַׁב chatseb; a primitive root; to cut or carve ( wood), stone or other material); by implication, to hew, split, square, quarry, engrave: — cut, dig, divide, grave, hew ( out,- er), made, mason.

AV ( 25)- dig 5, hew 4, hewers 4, hew out 4, mason 3, cut 1, divideth 1, graven 1, hewn 1, made 1; to dig, cleave, divide, hew, make, cut out, dig out, cut down, quarry, hewer, mason ( Qal) to hew out, dig to hew stone wood to hew in pieces ( metaph.) to divide, cleave ( Niphal) to be cut, be hewn, be engraved ( Hiphil) to hew into pieces, cut up into pieces ( Pual) to be cut from, be hewn from (STRONG)

The voice of the Lord uses trials of fire to hewn you so that you are shaped as a living stone to find your place in the temple. During the building of Solomon's temple stones were quarried and hewed before being placed in the temple. The temple is the Body of Christ and we are members of the Body but we need the voice of the Lord to shape and place us in our eternal purpose.

We must be found unto "praise, honour and glory". Christ's eternal purpose for us is "sonship" (*Ephesians 1:4-6 NKJV*)

*4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, 5 having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, 6 to the **praise of the glory** of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved*

(*Hebrews 2:10 NKJV*)

*10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing **many sons to glory**, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings*

(*Romans 8:28-29 NKJV*)

*28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. 29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren*

The flames of fire always reveal the Son of God

(*Daniel 3:25 NKJV*)

*25 "Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."*

We are created as Jacob but formed into Israel. We go through, rivers, waters and fire so that His eternal purpose of firstborn sonship can be formed in us. This process shapes us from a child into a son of God.

(*Isaiah 43:1-3 NKJV*)

*1 But now, thus says the Lord, who created you, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel:*

*"Fear not, for I have redeemed you;*

*I have called you by your name;*

*You are Mine.*

*2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;*

*And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you.*

*When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned,*

*Nor shall the flame scorch you.*

*3 For I am the Lord your God,*

*The Holy One of Israel, your Savior*

(*Exodus 4:22 NKJV*)

*22 Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the Lord: "Israel is My son, My firstborn*

As we are formed we become mature in understanding that all that we acquire, possess, receive or manage is connected to our eternal purpose. From our marriage to our children, our finances, our assets, our bank account, our relationships, our health, our mental state is eternally connected to sonship. Jesus walked as a son on the earth to reveal His Father.

Our eternal purpose as sons of God needs brief definition.

### **PEACE MAKERS**

*(Matthew 5:9 NKJV)*

*9 Blessed are the peacemakers,  
For they shall be called sons of God.*

Jesus is the prince of peace. As sons of God we are called to be peacemakers in all situations. We are dispensations of peace.

### **UNDERSTANDING**

*(1 John 5:20 NKJV)*

*20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life*

We receive understanding of where we are and who we are. Our purpose is defined by this understanding.

### **REVEAL THE FATHER**

*(John 14:8-9 NKJV)*

*8 Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us."*

*9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"*

We are in Christ and He is in the Father. We can only reveal whom we are in. We are here as sons of God to reveal the love of Our Father just as Jesus did.

### **PREACH THE KINGDOM**

*(Luke 4:43 NKJV)*

*43 but He said to them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, because for this purpose I have been sent"*

We are here to proclaim, announce, herald or declare the Kingdom of God. We are not here to preach the gospel of salvation. We are here to declare the Kingdom of God which includes salvation. Salvation comes when the Kingdom comes from within us.

### **OPEN HEAVEN**

*(Matthew 3:16-17 NKJV)*

*16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. 17 And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased"*

As the heavens opened when Jesus was declared as the Son of God, we also must live under an open heaven. This means access to the voice of God to lead and direct us daily.

### **SENT BY THE FATHER**

*(John 20:21-22 NKJV)*

*21 So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." 22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit"*

Being sent means you have the full authority and backing of the one who sends you. We are sent by the Father because we have received the Holy Spirit by which we cry "Abba Father". He will resource us as long as we live for His eternal purpose.

## ETERNAL LIFE

*(John 5:26 NKJV)*

*26 For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, As sons of God we carry the life of God. This is “zoe life” This is the life that is in God. We must consistently give life to those around us. This is the abundant life of God.*

God hewed or cut down Judah through the voice of His prophets

*(Hosea 6:4-5 NKJV)*

*4 “O Ephraim, what shall I do to you?*

*O Judah, what shall I do to you?*

*For your faithfulness is like a morning cloud,*

*And like the early dew it goes away.*

*5 Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets, I have slain them by the words of My mouth;*

*And your judgments are like light that goes forth*

The shaping of our lives into sons of God is deeply connected to the voice of the Lord. Spiritual fathering is not about control and manipulation it is about hewing the stone into its eternal purpose. We are living stones and Christ is the cornerstone. He is the standard and the patterned son. He was born as the Son of God by the Holy Spirit, we are adopted or placed as sons when we receive the Spirit of Christ.

## 7. SHAKES THE WILDERNESS

*(Psalms 29:8 NKJV)*

*8 The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;*

*The Lord shakes the Wilderness of Kadesh.*

The wilderness is a place of wandering due to rebellion

*(Numbers 32:13 NKJV)*

*13 So the Lord's anger was aroused against Israel, and He made them wander in the wilderness forty years, until all the generation that had done evil in the sight of the Lord was gone.*

The generation that was with Moses was a rebellious and wicked generation. God caused them to wander till they all died.

The voice of the Lord shakes us out of our rebellion and into our purpose.

*(1 Corinthians 10:1-10 NKJV)*

*1 Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, 2 all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, 3 all ate the same spiritual food, 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. 5 But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.*

*6 Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not **lust after evil things** as they also lusted. 7 And do not become **idolaters** as were some of them. As it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and **rose up to play.**” 8 Nor let us commit **sexual immorality**, as some of them did, and in one day twenty- three thousand fell; 9 nor let us **tempt Christ**, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; 10 nor **complain**, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer*

The symptoms of rebellion which led to Israel wandering in the wilderness are:

- Lust for evil thing
- Idolaters
- Rose up to play
- Sexual immorality
- Tempt Christ
- Complain

*(Psalms 95:7-8 NKJV)*

*7 For He is our God,  
And we are the people of His pasture,  
And the sheep of His hand.*

*Today, if you will hear His voice:*

*8 "Do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion, As in the day of trial in the wilderness  
Deuteronomy 8:2 (NKJV)*

*2 And you shall remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not.*

As sheep we hear his voice

*(John 10:27 NKJV)*

*27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.*

It is the hardness of our hearts that causes us to rebel against the voice of the shepherd. The nation rebelled when they heard the voice of God through Moses. They were stiff necked and rebellious and were known as perverse generation.

The voice of the Lord shakes these areas of our life to move us into the promised land. Our destiny is not the promised land but Christ the Promised One. That generation died in the wilderness without receiving the promise because they did not obey the voice of the Lord. We must not die in the wilderness. When we hear the voice of the Lord it will shake the wilderness and we must be willing to be obedient to the voice of the Lord.

Kadesh is a place of strife and contention

#### **HEBREW: Kadesh - qâdêš**

h6946. קִדְשׁ qâdêš; the same as 6945; sanctuary; Kadesh, a place in the Desert:— Kadesh. Compare 6947.

AV (18)- Kadesh 17, Meribahkadesh +h4808 1; Kadesh ="holy"

a city in the extreme south of Judah same as ' Kedes' and ' (STRONG)

h4808. מְרִיבָה m rîybâ; from 7378; quarrel: — provocation, strife.

AV ( 7)- strife 5, Meribahkadesh + h6946 1, provocation 1; strife, contention (STRONG)

*(Numbers 27:14 NKJV)*

*14 For in the Wilderness of Zin, during the strife of the congregation, you rebelled against My command to hallow Me at the waters before their eyes." (These are the waters of Meribah, at Kadesh in the Wilderness of Zin*

Strife is quarrelling that causes discord and brings contentions. This creates an environment of hatred and anger which will produce rebellion. Moses became angry at the strife and quarrelling of the people and struck the rock. He rebelled against God's instruction.

Strife is fuelled by:

Hatred

*(Proverbs 10:12 NKJV)*

*12 Hatred stirs up strife, But love covers all sins.*

Pride

*(Proverbs 13:10 NKJV)*

*10 By pride comes nothing but strife, But with the well- advised is wisdom.*

Anger

*(Proverbs 15:18 NKJV)*

*18 A wrathful man stirs up strife, But he who is slow to anger allays contention.*

Perversity

*(Proverbs 16:28 NKJV)*

*28 A perverse man sows strife, And a whisperer separates the best of friends.*

Gossip

*(Proverbs 26:20-22 NKJV)*

*20 Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; And where there is no talebearer, strife ceases.*

*21 As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire, So is a contentious man to kindle strife.*

*22 The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles, And they go down into the inmost body*

How to deal with strife and contention?

Separation

*(Genesis 13:7-9 NKJV)*

*7 And there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. The Canaanites and the Perizzites then dwelt in the land. 8 So Abram said to Lot, "Please let there be no strife between you and me, and between my herdsmen and your herdsmen; for we are brethren. 9 Is not the whole land before you? Please separate from me. If you take the left, then I will go to the right; or, if you go to the right, then I will go to the left*

Separate from with the mocker, boastful and the proud

*(Proverbs 22:10 NKJV)*

*10 Cast out the scoffer, and contention will leave; Yes, strife and reproach will cease.*

Quietness

*(Proverbs 17:1 NKJV)*

*1 Better is a dry morsel with quietness, Than a house full of feasting with strife.*

Stop before the quarrel starts

*(Proverbs 17:14 NKJV)*

*14 The beginning of strife is like releasing water; Therefore stop contention before a quarrel starts.*

Put on Christ

*(Romans 13:13-14 NKJV)*

*13 Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts*

Provocation, strife and contention leaves one in the wilderness. We must know how to dig new wells and move away from strife and contention. Isaac had to dig a new well till God made room for him.

*(Genesis 26:19-22 NKJV)*

*19 Also Isaac's servants dug in the valley, and found a well of running water there. 20 But the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac's herdsmen, saying, "The water is ours." So he called the name of the well Esek, because they quarreled with him 21 Then they dug another well, and they quarreled over that one also. So he called its name Sitnah. 22 And he moved from there and dug another well, and they did not quarrel over it. So he called its name Rehoboth, because he said, "For now the Lord has made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land"*

Hannah faced provocation from Penninah because she had no children. She cried before the Lord and the voice of the Lord prevailed over the situation.

*(1 Samuel 1:15-17 NKJV)*

*15 But Hannah answered and said, "No, my lord, I am a woman of sorrowful spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor intoxicating drink, but have poured out my soul before the Lord. 16 Do not consider your maidservant a wicked woman, for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief I have spoken until now."*

*17 Then Eli answered and said, "Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition which you have asked of Him"*

The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness of strife and contention and moves you into a place of quietness and separation. It will shift you out of wandering and position you in purpose to produce a Samuel

## **8. POSITIONS YOU TO PRODUCE**

*(Psalms 29:9 (NKJV)*

*9 The voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth,  
And strips the forests bare;  
And in His temple everyone says, "Glory!"*

*(Psalms 29:9 KJV)*

*9 The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds to calve,*

### **HEBREW: Calve - חָוַל**

h2342. חָוַל חָוַל; or חָוַל chiyl; a primitive root; properly, to twist or whirl (in a circular or spiral manner), i. e. (specifically) to dance, to writhe in pain (especially of parturition) or fear; figuratively, to wait, to pervert:— bear, (make to) bring forth, (make to) calve, dance, drive away, fall grievously (with pain), fear, form, great, grieve, (be) grievous, hope, look, make, be in pain, be much (sore) pained, rest, shake, shapen, (be) sorrow (-ful), stay, tarry, travail (with pain), tremble, trust, wait carefully (patiently), be wounded.

AV (62)- pain 6, formed 5, bring forth 4, pained 4, tremble 4, travail 4, dance 2, calve 2, grieved 2, grievous 2, wounded 2, shake 2, misc 23; to twist, whirl, dance, writhe, fear, tremble, travail, be in anguish, be pained ( Qal) to dance to twist, writhe to whirl, whirl about ( Polel) to dance to writhe (in travail with), bear, bring forth to wait anxiously ( Pulal) to be made to writhe, be made to bear to be brought forth ( Hophal) to be born (Hithpolel) whirling ( participle) writhing, suffering torture ( participle) to wait longingly ( Hithpalpel) to be distressed (STRONG)

The voice of the Lord positions us in labor to make us ready to produce or bring us to delivery. The word of God never returns empty or void. It always has an outcome. When we hear the voice of the Lord it must produce in our lives. The voice dispenses or sows seed which is the word of God. The seed must become flesh and produce after its kind.

To produce requires a period of labor and travail. When the voice of the Lord is released it initiates a period of labor and travail where there is writhing, wrestling, twisting, waiting before there is bringing forth or a birthing.

*(Isaiah 26:16-18 NKJV)*

*16 Lord, in trouble they have visited You,  
They poured out a prayer when Your chastening was upon them.*

*17 As a woman with child  
Is in pain and cries out in her pangs,  
When she draws near the time of her delivery,  
So have we been in Your sight, O Lord.*

*18 We have been with child, we have been in pain;  
We have, as it were, brought forth wind;  
We have not accomplished any deliverance in the earth,  
Nor have the inhabitants of the world fallen*

Paul laboured with the Galation church so that Christ would be formed in them

*(Galatians 4:19 NKJV)*

*19 My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you,*

All the suffering and pain we go through must not produce wind. We must allow it to form Christ in us so that Christ will be produced through us. The voice of the Lord is the initiator of a time of travail and waiting so that we come to the place of productivity.

When the voice was released over David his life began to be filled with many sufferings. He became a fugitive, an enemy of the state, a wanted man. His time in the strongholds and wilderness were periods of great travail and waiting till he became king.

After Saul had his Damascus road experience where the voice of the Lord was spoken over him he went to Arabia and Damascus for three years and then after fourteen years went with Barnabas to Jerusalem (Gal 1:15-24, Gal 2:1). These were periods of wrestling and formation before Paul could be brought forth as an Apostle to the Gentiles.

The voice of the Lord will position us to produce but we must know how to travail and wait on the Lord before there is a production.

In order for the productivity to take place we must believe. We limit the productivity of the voice of the Lord because we are of little faith or unbelief.

Jehoshaphat believed the prophet in his time and positioned the people according to the voice of the Lord.

*(2 Chronicles 20:20 NKJV)*

*20 So they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the Lord your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper*

Tekoa" means blast of a trumpet - the people positioned themselves in the voice of the Lord

When we believe His prophets who are the voice of the Lord we will prosper.

*(2 Chronicles 20:25 NKJV)*

*25 When Jehoshaphat and his people came to take away their spoil, they found among them an abundance of valuables on the dead bodies, and precious jewelry, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away; and they were three days gathering the spoil because there was so much.*

- When Israel prophesied over his sons they fulfilled their destiny
- When Samuel spoke over David it produced a King
- When Jesus spoke over fishermen it produced Apostles
- When Jesus spoke over five loaves and two fish it fed the multitudes
- When Jesus spoke over Peter he bought in an abundance of fish
- When Paul spoke over Timothy and Titus it produced Apostles

Jesus often rebuked the disciples for unbelief

*(Mark 4:38-41 NKJV)*

*38 But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?"*

*39 Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. 40 But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?" 41 And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, "Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him*

Familiarity is a breeding ground for unbelief

*(Matthew 13:57-58 NKJV)*

*57 So they were offended at Him.*

*But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country and in his own house." 58 Now He did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief*

We must believe the one who is the voice of the Lord and we will be positioned to produce.

## **10. ENERGIZES**

*(Psalms 29:9 NKJV)*

*9 The voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth,  
And strips the forests bare;  
And in His temple everyone says, "Glory!"*

*(Psalms 29:9 KJVStrong's)*

*9 The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds to calve,  
and discovereth the forests:and in his temple doth every one speak of his glory.*

### **HEBREW: Forest - ya'ârâ**

h3295. יַעֲרָא ya'ârâ; feminine of 3293, and meaning the same:— (honey-) comb, forest.

AV (2)- forest 1, honeycomb +h1706; forest honeycomb (STRONG)

To strip the forest is to find the honeycomb which stores honey. One can get lost in the forest and become exhausted. The voice of the Lord discovers the honey that gives you energy when you have no direction. Forest is a place of wild beasts and animals that are looking for prey. We need the energy that comes from the honey to outwit and outrun our enemies.

When John ate the book he became the voice of the Lord. It tasted like honey. He was on an island exiled and isolated but energised by the honey of God's word.

*(Revelation 10:10-11 NKJV)*

*10 Then I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth. But when I had eaten it, my stomach became bitter. 11 And he said to me, "You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings"*

*(Psalms 119:103 NKJV)*

*103 How sweet are Your words to my taste, Sweeter than honey to my mouth*

The word of God energizes us for our journey. When we face battles and are weary it is the sweetness of the word that changes our countenance. Saul kept his men from eating through a vow but Jonathan ate of the honey and was energized.

*(1 Samuel 14:25-27 NKJV)*

*25 Now all the people of the land came to a forest; and there was honey on the ground. 26 And when the people had come into the woods, there was the honey, dripping; but no one put his hand to his mouth, for the people feared the oath. 27 But Jonathan had not heard his father charge the people with the oath; therefore he stretched out the end of the rod that was in his hand and dipped it in a honeycomb, and put his hand to his mouth; and his countenance brightened*

Honey was a delicacy and was presented as a first fruit, a gift and an offering.

The nation of Israel gave honey as a first fruit for the support of the priests and the levites

*(2 Chronicles 31:4-5 NKJV)*

*4 Moreover he commanded the people who dwelt in Jerusalem to contribute support for the priests and the Levites, that they might devote themselves to the Law of the Lord. 5 As soon as the commandment was circulated, the children of Israel brought in abundance the firstfruits of grain and wine, oil and honey, and of all the produce of the field; and they brought in abundantly the tithe of everything*

Jacob sent honey as gift to Joseph who was regarded as a dignitary in Egypt

*(Genesis 43:11 NKJV)*

*11 And their father Israel said to them, "If it must be so, then do this: Take some of the best fruits of the land in your vessels and carry down a present for the man—a little balm and a little honey, spices and myrrh, pistachio nuts and almonds*

Jeroboam sent honey as an offering to Ahijah the prophet

*(1 Kings 14:1-3 NKJV)*

*1 At that time Abijah the son of Jeroboam became sick. 2 And Jeroboam said to his wife, "Please arise, and disguise yourself, that they may not recognize you as the wife of Jeroboam, and go to Shiloh. Indeed, Ahijah the prophet is there, who told me that I would be king over this people. 3 Also take with you ten loaves, some cakes, and a jar of honey, and go to him; he will tell you what will become of the child*

Honey had great value and was regarded as a commodity of expense. The word of God must receive the same value. When you regard the word as a luxury that you have received from God you will value what it can produce in you. The substance that is in the word will shift you out of any forest and into the garden of the Lord. This becomes a reality when we receive the voice of the Lord that releases the honey of God's word.

*(1 Timothy 5:17 NKJV)*

*17 Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine.*

When we honour elders who labor in the “honey” then we express that value that we place on the word of God. The voice of the Lord will help us discover the honey.

### **Defeating the Assyrian**

*(Isaiah 30:31 NKJV)*

*31 For through the voice of the Lord  
Assyria will be beaten down,  
As He strikes with the rod.*

Assyria is a nation that besieges and places constraints on resources. It surrounded Judah which was under the leadership of King Hezekiah who was a great reformer. It figuratively portrays a time of constriction in our own lives when there is lack of momentum and movement.

*(2 Chronicles 32:1-2 NKJV)*

*1 After these deeds of faithfulness, Sennacherib king of Assyria came and entered Judah; he encamped against the fortified cities, thinking to win them over to himself. 2 And when Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib had come, and that his purpose was to make war against Jerusalem*

After deeds of faithfulness the Assyrian spirit comes to attack and besiege. The voice of the Rabshakeh or the “controller” comes to test your faith and trust in God.

*(Isaiah 36:4-7 NKJV)*

*4 Then the Rabshakeh said to them, “Say now to Hezekiah, “Thus says the great king, the king of Assyria: ‘What confidence is this in which you trust? 5 I say you speak of having plans and power for war; but they are mere words. Now in whom do you trust, that you rebel against me? 6 Look! You are trusting in the staff of this broken reed, Egypt, on which if a man leans, it will go into his hand and pierce it. So is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who trust in him. 7 “But if you say to me, ‘We trust in the Lord our God,’ is it not He whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah has taken away, and said to Judah and Jerusalem, ‘You shall worship before this altar?’” ‘*

Hezekiah realised that he needed to hear the voice of the Lord for this situation.

*(Isaiah 37:1-2 NKJV)*

*1 And so it was, when King Hezekiah heard it, that he tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the Lord. 2 Then he sent Eliakim, who was over the household, Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz*

When we are constrained and surrounded, pressed down and overwhelmed we must be confident in the voice of the Lord. The voice of the controller from Assyria will bring your faith into question and will remind you of those who have been defeated and request a present from you. It comes strip the gold which is the divine nature that is in us; the house of God. This is the divine nature of God that we have received by the Spirit of God.

It is through the voice of the Lord that the Assyrian is beaten down

## How do we hear the voice of God?

### Voice of wisdom

*(Exodus 18:17-19 NKJV)*

*17 So Moses' father-in-law said to him, "The thing that you do is not good. 18 Both you and these people who are with you will surely wear yourselves out. For this thing is too much for you; you are not able to perform it by yourself. 19 Listen now to my voice; I will give you counsel, and God will be with you: Stand before God for the people, so that you may bring the difficulties to God"*

God speaks through the voice of wisdom. There is wisdom in the multitude of counsellors

*(Proverbs 24:6 NKJV)*

*6 For by wise counsel you will wage your own war,  
And in a multitude of counselors there is safety.*

### Dreams

Joseph received his destiny in a dream

*(Genesis 37:5 NKJV)*

*5 Now Joseph had a dream, and he told it to his brothers; and they hated him even more.*

Abimelech was warned in a dream about Sarai

*(Genesis 20:3 NKJV)*

*3 But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night, and said to him, "Indeed you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is a man's wife."*

Joseph was told to marry Mary in a dream

*(Matthew 1:20 NKJV)*

*20 But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.*

### Visions

Abram received the word of the Lord in a vision

*(Genesis 15:1 NKJV)*

*1 After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward"*

David received God's voice through a vision

*(Psalms 89:19 NKJV)*

*19 Then You spoke in a vision to Your holy one,  
And said: "I have given help to one who is mighty;  
I have exalted one chosen from the people."*

Isaiah saw in a vision the word of God concerning the kings in his time

*(Isaiah 1:1 NKJV)*

*1 The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.*

Peter's had a vision about the Gentiles

*(Acts 10:9-10 NKJV)*

*9 The next day, as they went on their journey and drew near the city, Peter went up on the housetop to pray, about the sixth hour. 10 Then he became very hungry and wanted to eat; but while they made ready, he fell into a trance*

### **Inner voice of the Spirit of God**

*(Matthew 4:1 NKJV)*

*1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.*

*(Acts 10:19 NKJV)*

*19 While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are seeking you.*

*(Luke 2:25-27 NKJV)*

*25 And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. 27 So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law*

### **His Prophets**

Samuel was the prophet of God that spoke to King Saul

*(1 Samuel 15:1 NKJV)*

*1 Samuel also said to Saul, "The Lord sent me to anoint you king over His people, over Israel. Now therefore, heed the voice of the words of the Lord*

Haggai prophesied to Zerubbabel and they obeyed

*(Haggai 1:12 NKJV)*

*12 Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the Lord their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the Lord their God had sent him; and the people feared the presence of the Lord.*

### **His word**

*(2 Timothy 3:16-17 NKJV)*

*16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work*

God's word is spirit and is profitable to bring direction into our lives. The word is a lamp to our feet and light unto our path. Wisdom is in the word of God. Wisdom stands at the crossroads to direct us.

### **Circumstances**

Plagues, famine, trials, testings are ways in which God speaks to us. Egypt had plagues but refused to hear the voice of God. David had famine when he numbered the people. Israel had drought at the voice of Elijah because of their idolatrous lifestyle. Wilderness periods are to test what is on our heart.

*(Deuteronomy 8:2 NKJV)*

*2 And you shall remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not.*

## **Through Son**

*(Hebrews 1:1-2 NKJV)*

*1 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds*

As sons of God we are led by the Spirit of God. God speaks to us through the nature of son. Son is obedient to the Father and speaks what the Father tells him to speak. So when a son of God speaks it is the voice of God. This requires maturity.

Jesus as the Son of God is Prophet, Priest and King. We as the sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus function with the same anointing. As prophets we declare, as priests we bless and as kings we decree.

*(Psalms 2:6-7 NKJV)*

*6 "Yet I have set My King  
On My holy hill of Zion."*

*7 "I will declare the decree:  
The Lord has said to Me,  
'You are My Son,  
Today I have begotten You*

As sons of God we must mature into becoming the voice of of the Lord. Jesus as the Son of God was the voice to the:

Wind and the waves

*(Luke 8:24 NKJV)*

*24 And they came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!"  
Then He arose and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water. And they ceased, and there was a calm.*

Fig Tree

*(Matthew 21:19 NKJV)*

*19 And seeing a fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it but leaves, and said to it, "Let no fruit grow on you ever again." Immediately the fig tree withered away.*

Fish

*(Luke 5:5-6 NKJV)*

*5 But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." 6 And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking*

Demons

*(Luke 4:41 NKJV)*

*41 And demons also came out of many, crying out and saying, "You are the Christ, the Son of God!"*

*And He, rebuking them, did not allow them to speak, for they knew that He was the Christ*

Jesus spoke with great authority and power as the Son of God and there was always results. As children of God we must exercise the same authority and become the voice of the Lord.