

# **PART 3 of 3: HEARING GOD'S VOICE**

## **Body Language, Little Ones, Creation, Angels**

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by Philip Shields

1 hour, 11 minutes

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Summary: Concluding sermon on *how* to hear God speaking to you. Does Yahweh speak to us directly, or does He require we receive His messages only through ordained ministers, prophets and priests? Learn the kind of “body Language” the Eternal uses. Can God be speaking to us through “little ones”, or through “acts of God” and through His creation? Will God continue to use angels to send His messages? This sermon series could help us all improve our spiritual hearing.

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(Note: I often use the name *Yahweh* (YHWH), the Hebrew name in the original scriptures for the One true living God. It means “I am who I am” or “the Eternal, Ever living One”. I also prefer to frequently refer to Jesus by the actual name He would have been called as a young Jew growing up in Nazareth. That name is *Yahshua* or some say *Yeshua*. We know that name in our Anglicized pronunciation as “Joshua”. But Hebrew has no “J” sound. Besides, in His 33 years as a human on earth, our Savior was never called “Jesus” and He never heard that name. *So I use “Yahweh” when referring to God the Father and Yahshua when referring to His Eternal Son, by whom Yahweh created the universe.* Yahweh puts great importance on to names and over and over He says the time is coming when people everywhere “will know my name”. )

\*\*\*(*Track 1*) *Yahweh Speaks to Each of us Through His Body.*

**(*This first page is actually not in the audio, but covers a very important point:*)** There is still a general feeling among many that God does speak to us alright – but only through His ordained ministers. Brethren, though God obviously speaks to the assembly by ordained ministers, He is not limited to that method of communicating with us.

Nowadays the Eternal speaks *to each of us directly* by His Son – who lives in each of us by His Spirit. The Living God speaks to you and me directly through His Holy Spirit which resides in us, making each of our bodies His Holy Temple, or the Father’s House.

Yahweh needs no go-between or intermediary other than Yahshua (Jesus), as we covered in part 1.

### **Hebrews 1:1-2**

“God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup> *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;”

This is such an important point. If we think God uses only the few ordained ministers to speak to us, we’ll be missing a lot of His messages to each of us. We are all members of the body of Christ.

God uses each and every one of His body parts to communicate. Each of us is a hand, a foot, an internal organ, an eye, on the body of Christ, and so on (1 Cor. 12).

Now the notes more closely reflect what is said in the audio from this point on.

Greetings, members of the Body of Christ, those of you who are “in Him”. This is the final part of the 3 part series of Hearing God's Voice. God is speaking to us. If we're not hearing Him daily, we are the ones at fault. We are the ones not dialed in correctly. We're the ones on the wrong wavelength. We have to have His spirit and we have to be in Him before we will consistently hear His voice or messages for each of us specifically.

The Bible speaks so much about being “in Him” that it is important to grasp how we are in God, as much as He is in us. Please be sure to hear my 3 part series on the Blessings of being In Him, for it is one of the most important series I've ever given. Nothing happens to us spiritually, after our calling, until we are “in Him”.

Last time we talked about how we need to have interactive prayer. It surprises me that so many look at me quizzically when I say I pray and have moments of silence as I pray, as I wait for the Eternal's response or reply. I think too many of us do monologues with our Creator as we pray and don't give Him a chance to respond or tell us what He thinks. So I stop and pause periodically as I pray. I use a prayer notebook or pad of paper and pen to write down what I feel He is telling me.

As you pray for someone's healing, or ask for someone to be blessed, as you express gratitude – pause, let the Almighty “get back” with you.

I prepare many sermons on my knees, especially at times I'm feeling an impasse. When I do, it never ceases to amaze me how fast the thoughts come when I ask for His mind, His help, His view on things.

I recommend some of our Bible study also be undertaken on our knees – and again, with pen and notebook beside you. The purpose, the point, of Bible study is to lead us to Yahshua, to come to know Him. The purpose of Bible study is to come to know the author of the book, and not just the book. Know both. Know the author and know what He says. As you fill your mind with scripture, Yahweh will often speak to you by His own words. We apply Prov. 15:1 for example in times of argument.

### *(TRACK 2) GOD'S SPECIAL BODY LANGUAGE FOR COMMUNICATING TO US*

I'm now proceeding with part 3, and talking about another way God speaks to us – through His body.

When you speak to someone, you not only use your mouth, but you also use your eyes and your facial expressions to express what you want to say. Your hands are moving, your body constantly shifts in ways that to a knowledgeable and observant person – speak volumes, way beyond the actual words.

This is the ultimate “body language”. Many of us are refusing Christ's message because we don't understand that God speaks through all of His Body. Don't marginalize the average member. The

Catholic Church early on set up a distinction that has hurt the body by dividing the assembly into the clergy (Priests, presbyters, bishops) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> class laity. The laity were 2<sup>nd</sup> class citizens compared to the august priests in their expensive flowing robes, as they spoke from high stages.

Yahshua had a fine robe, but it was not something that made him stand out differently from the general populace. Here he is the son of God, but preached on hillsides, from a boat, or in a house. He did not drive around in an expensive and fancy chariot – but he chose to walk instead.

Did He want us dividing the church into different strata of members? No. He told us not to call anyone “Father” or Rabbi” because we have a heavenly father and one Teacher. He said we are all brothers and sisters in the same family (Matthew 23:9???)

If we think Yahweh speaks only through ordained ministers, we’re going to be missing much of what God is telling us. This is not to minimize the ministry, but simply to say God uses the ministry but He also uses ALL of His body.

Many of us in fact don’t recognize the Christ knocking outside His own door because we see a church member out there – and don’t realize he represents Christ. Remember He says in Matthew 25 – “*I was hungry and you fed Me...*” by feeding one of the least of these *His brethren*.

Whatever we do, say, don’t do, or don’t say to a brother or sister in Christ – we are doing or saying or not doing or not saying to Christ Himself.

Be sure to hear my next sermon “The Least of these my Brethren”. A big point I’m trying to say is this: how we treat one another is how we are treating Yahshua himself. But flip that around too: *Yahweh appears to us, talks to us, and interacts with us – by using His Body*. Just as you interact and deal with people by using your mouth, your hands, your eyes, your tongue, your feet – Yahweh does the very same thing. God may be using *you*, in fact, to give His message to someone, as you try to encourage and support a sister or brother. In the same way, Yahweh uses the sister or brother to convey a message also to you.

Now I’m more aware of this. Whatever I say about a sister or brother, I’m saying about my Savior. Whatever I do, or don’t do, for a brother or sister in Him, I’m doing – or not doing – unto my Savior.

But we feel free to speak badly of this one or that, of an old man or woman, who has God’s spirit, because they sure may not look like “God”, we think. But in so doing, we do that to Christ. I was asked at the last minute this week to spend some hours with an older woman if I could. My day was already completely booked up, I had to work, and so I offered to do an hour or so--- but I tell you: I kept thinking about this. What would I have done if that were Christ Himself? \*\*\* She doesn’t look like Christ, she sometimes doesn’t sound like my concept of Christ. But if she has God’s spirit, she IS part of the Christ.

So I called and said I could and would go but could only squeeze out an hour because the rest was committed already. It *was* a last minute call from them. As it turned out, they didn’t need me the next day – but I tell you: had they needed me and had I been able to go, I would have been doing that unto Christ.

So my point is, I think we often miss the voice of God for US, because we downplay that Yahweh could *possibly* speak to you and me through a young person, or an old man, or a brother who only has high school education perhaps.

Once we recognize this, we'll hear snippets of God's voice through a phone call, a card, a letter, a conversation. Test the spirits, always. *I'm not saying to be stupid and believe everything anyone says to us is from God.* No, test the spirits. Be praying for God to speak to you, and then be on the lookout for the answer. You may be surprised how fast Yahweh responds to you.

God may be encouraging you through his body member who sends you an encouraging card. My brother received such a card recently from people in Europe, just when he needed it. There have been times in my life when I've felt *so* lonely, so alone, so rejected – and I've prayed for God to show me His love – and what happens? The phone rings. Sometimes, in mid prayer, someone's calling me to tell me I came to mind and they just wanted to call to say they'd like to get together.

Wow, times like that I just look up to the ceiling to the Eternal and whisper "Thank you. Thank you. You're amazing."

Is God talking to us? Do you recognize His voice through His Body, the brothers and sisters in Christ?

Let's review: WE are the body of Christ. 1 Cor. 12 specifically says some of us are hands, some are feet, some are mouths. Some are big mouths. Sorry, I couldn't resist that. Some of us are internal organs that filter what the mouth so easily takes in. Others of us are the armpits and backside of the body – body parts that most other body parts (members) want to hide, cover up, and not talk about, or be associated with. That's OK. That's part of being the backside and armpit. But if I'm one of those lowly parts, so be it, but praise be to God, be the best body part you can be with God's spirit. No body part of Christ can be unholy. If we're on the body of Christ, it is because we have His Spirit and are therefore part of the holy brethren – and part of the body of the Eternal Himself.

Would you ever cut off your backside because it sometimes embarrasses you, or even stinks? A healthy body needs even *that* part. It needs the armpit. It needs the colon. Are you getting the point? Whom do you consider "the armpit" of the Body of Christ? How are you regarding that part of the body of Christ?

(Story about how I appreciate the tendons of my body after ripping a tendon a month ago, now as I suffer through tennis elbow.)

That's why **Romans 12:4-5** says *we* are members *of Christ*, each with our own ordained function of God, *and individually members of one another.* Members of one another. But each of us is a part of the Messiah's body if we have God's spirit. That means we need to have profound respect for one another and a profound acceptance of one another, because if anyone has the Spirit, he or she is a holy one in Christ. It's either that, or we're not respecting and accepting Yahshua Himself.

Now, do you see why it is so serious to "dismember" the body of Christ wrongly? Some are doing that very thing: trying to disregard someone, or shun a body member we don't want around.

If you want to hear God's voice, we may be missing many opportunities, because we don't recognize the voice He uses, or the lips and mouths He uses. If you want to hear God's voice, we can, from the lips of a mere mortal – again, from a member of the body of Christ. A couple years ago I gave a sermon on “Recognizing Christ by Recognizing His body”. It goes into depth on this point.

For that matter, realize that ***YOU yourself ARE an ambassador for Christ*** (2 Corinthians 5:20). When an ambassador delivers a message from the U.S. government to another government, that is the voice of the president of the USA they're actually hearing. In diplomatic circles, that concept is easily understood. Why don't we understand it as clearly when God says we are HIS ambassadors?

Now let's kick this up a notch. I want to speak to men older than 50 especially right now.

***Would you men accept that God could speak to you through the voice of a woman led by God's spirit?*** Don't forget we're told that Philip had 4 virgin daughters who prophesied (Acts 21:9). Now whether that word means foretelling or forth-telling, God used women.

Yes, you guys – even women can deliver God's message for you and me. Women are also children of God. He calls them His daughters in 2 Cor. 6:18. I think we've marginalized women long enough. In God's eyes, there is neither male nor female (Galatians 3:28), for we are all one in Christ. All of us who were baptized into Christ have put on Christ, and we are now all one in Him.

Frankly, when I served as a pastor for many years, more often than not I felt it was the women who were the ones doing most of the praying, Bible study, meditating and who had a more spiritual outlook, even more so than their own husbands or the men in general. They were the ones urging the families to get ready for services. They were the ones at the Bible studies. And they were the ones so often I felt God was working with. When I asked for input into various topics, more often than not, it was the input from spirit-led women that I felt was more profound. So I'll certainly accept God may talk to me through a woman. Again, I'll test the spirits to be sure it matches with God's way and God's word. There are also false prophetess – like Jezebel and one mentioned in Nehemiah. But there are good prophetesses as I've mentioned. Anna is another one.

God spoke to all Israel through Deborah.

In the days of righteous King Josiah, he didn't go to the high priest when He needed God's word? No – he went to a woman, a prophetess named Huldah. Read it in 2 Kings 22:14-20. God changes not.

He spoke through Miriam the prophetess too. Yahweh still speaks to us all through the wonderful testimony given by a woman, Mary of Magdala, that the Christ was risen and she saw Him, heard Him and touched Him.

Perhaps you should hear my 4 part sermon on WOMEN – given in 2006 or so. Yahweh may speak to you through your wife, your young daughter, or your mother. Be careful to heed, for it may be the Eternal Himself sending you a message – through His body.

*So understand sometimes YOU are the voice of God, and sometimes we need to recognize the voice of God coming from the body of Christ. We miss a lot here. As you look at a brother or sister in the*

Lord, think “Hello, Jesus”. How would you speak to the Christ? How would you treat the Christ? What would you say to the Christ? How respectfully would we listen, if that were the Christ? We need to see that – in a limited way – that man, child or woman is part of the Body of the Christ. My thumb is not “me”, but it is definitely very much a part of me. If I use my thumb to signal a message to you – like a “thumbs up” message – that’s ME talking to you, using my thumb to send the message. In the same way, God may use an insignificant body part to speak to you.

So let’s start being more aware of this possibility we’re missing half the time.  
Now let’s kick it up a notch.

**Yahweh speaks to us even through His “little ones”.**

If we hear whomever he sends, we hear Him.

Who is a “little one” in Christ? I think it means those who are young in the faith, newly baptized. It can also literally refer to small children. I think God loves to speak to us through the simple voice of a child. First of all, I love the words in the song “I Believe” which speak to you and me this way: “Every time I hear a newborn baby cry, or touch a leaf, or see the sky – then I know why, I believe.”

When you wonder if God exists, or cares, go hold a baby. Hear His voice in that baby’s cry. I’m real serious about this. It could be Yahweh saying, “Do you wonder if I exist – while you hold the greatest *proof* of my existence in your arms? I am new life for you. I am your new beginning. See Me in this little baby. Yes, I’m here, yes I care, yes I love. Believe”.

In a week or two from now, I’m hoping to hold another potential body part of Christ in my arms, when my daughter gives birth to another granddaughter. Hear God’s voice in the baby’s cry, in the rustling of the leaves outside, in the honking of the geese flying overhead. Let’s ask Him to open our ears that we may hear. Ask Him to give us spiritual hearing, to heal our spiritual deafness.

In Samuel’s youth, Yahweh’s voice and revelation had been missing for a long time. Guess why? Because the nation had turned their back on Yahweh. They were each doing “what seemed right in his own eyes” (*Judges 17:6*). Sin distanced them from God, and so they could not hear His voice.

Yahweh remedied that by choosing a young boy Samuel. You can read all about it in 1 Samuel 3. The voice of God and revelation was rare (*1 Samuel 3:1-2*). So God begins to speak to a little child, Samuel.

God changes not. Sometimes the Eternal may choose to speak to you by and through a child. Test the spirits, test the message, but don’t shut yourself off from this possibility.

Another example: *Naaman’s Israelite slave girl*. The story is found in **2 Sam 5**. One of the most inspiring stories of a divine healing is there for us because Naaman was willing to listen to a little girl tell him about a prophet in Samaria whom Yahweh would use to heal him of his leprosy. Is God perhaps talking to you and me through the words or actions of children? Be aware of the possibility!

Paul's nephew (*Acts 23:12-20*) is another example. This was probably a teenager or a young man, but someone who had learned about a conspiracy to kill Paul. Paul listened to him, and realized God was using a young nephew to warn him to take some safety measures. Other times, God alerts us to what is coming, but doesn't necessarily stop it. For example, Agabus gave Paul a message.

So be aware that God may be speaking to us through even the young members of the church – young spiritually or physically. A child is not cynical and usually not trying to impress. You just hear the unvarnished truth.

**(track 3) OK, some of you will reject this next one, but to your peril. Yahweh may also speak to us THRU ANYONE – MAYBE NOT EVEN A PART OF HIS BODY.**

Do you think God communicates with you *just* through His body of spirit-filled believers? Oh no, it's much more than that.

When *the High Priest* at Jesus' sham trial said it was crucial that somebody die for the nation, that was a comment inspired by God, even though the High priest was actually intent on putting the Son of God to death. (*John 11:49-52*).

God even spoke to a false prophet – Balaam – and used an ass of a donkey to do speak to speak to Balaam. God may still from time to time to speak to us through someone we deem to be an ass. Be careful. You can read the fascinating story of how even Balaam spoke to an animal (*Num 22:21-33*). The point of the story is that sometimes others see things we cannot see. Yahweh opened the eyes of the donkey to see the Angel of the Lord standing there with a drawn sword.

God hasn't changed. But think: if we think God broadcasts His messages to us through one medium or station only –using a receiver as an analogy – we are missing all His other messages to us. We're not hearing. If we think, using this analogy, that Yahweh only uses a radio, we are missing His *other* means of communicating: letters, cards, TV, internet, etc. I'm just using the different media to illustrate my point: God talks to us in many ways: through His word, His sermons, His people, through anyone He uses. And more. Much more.

***Key: If we're praying for the Almighty to communicate with us, He is not limiting that to Bible study, sermons, or even words from fellow believers.*** Sometimes God's answers, if we're alert to them, will come from the radio, from a conversation with co-workers or our boss, or from something a neighbor says – or anything and anyone and anywhere we might least expect it.

Remember, after God opens the door, we have to come to Him. We have a definite part in being able to hear His voice.

Here's another: God speaks to **us through circumstances and even adversity.** *The story of JONAH* is a classic case. His actual name was Yonah (no J sound in Hebrew). Almighty had told Jonah to go east toward modern day Iraq and preach to the Ninevites. Being a prophet, Jonah no doubt understood the Assyrians would in the future destroy and enslave his own people. No doubt he was a patriot, so he went west instead, by boat, going in the exact opposite direction.

So the next time God “spoke”, God spoke to Jonah via a storm. Scriptures says Yahweh prepared that storm (Jonah 1:3) *Yahweh* prepared a special fish (Jonah 2:1) that could swallow Jonah. Are you getting what we’re being told here? God is still speaking to Yonah, but now through the media of His own creation. Jonah 2:1-2 says “I cried out to the Eternal and He answered me ...”

God speaks to us through weather and world events like earthquakes, tornadoes, hurricanes, and even fires. (Discussed events in Australia, 200 burned, hundreds of homes burned).

Looming disaster tends to send us to our knees. If we see disaster upon disaster, the Almighty is trying to shake us up to understand He’s not very happy right now with modern day Israelites.

Sometimes we feel like *we’re* in a storm, and that God isn’t hearing us. But we can’t go anywhere in this universe without God and his spirit being there with us. Be watching what’s happening around you, if you’re praying like Jonah did.

But be careful: God may not always just speak to *you*. He may speak to a *fish instead*. That’s how Jonah chapter 2:10 ends: “So the Eternal spoke to the fish and it vomited Jonah on to dry land”.

*Yahweh spoke to the fish? I hope we’re expanding our concept of how and to whom God communicates. The fish “heard God’s voice” and obeyed immediately when God spoke to it. Humans don’t usually obey as fast. Be careful, as we may –like the Laodecians – find ourselves being vomited out as well.*

So if we’re being swallowed up by life’s storms, and floods, and feel like we’re being swallowed up—let’s speak to God. Let’s ask Him to speak to us, to help us see, to help us hear what He wants us to hear. Tell him we’re ready to hear His voice. And perhaps – like the story of Jonah – the storm will cease.... And we may be vomited up someplace. If you’re in a storm, be listening, even as you pray for answers.

We discuss the story of the man in the flood – and the truck, boat, helicopter – which were sent to rescue him. But he refuses their help because he is waiting to hear from God and God would save him. So he drowns in the flood. When he meets up with God, the man is a bit perturbed and asks the Eternal, “Why didn’t you help me? Why didn’t you tell me what to do?”

The story goes on to say that God replied, “I *did* tell you what to do. I did send help. I sent people to you three different times, but you didn’t recognize my voice through them so you didn’t listen to Me.”

**(TRACK 4) The true God also communes with us through His creation.**

I often feel closest to God while sitting down quietly in His woods. Sometimes I am so still that wild creatures – deer, owls, fox -- will walk by without knowing I am there. As I’d watch them, so many times I felt I heard a word from our King. I could “hear God” telling me about His humor perhaps as I watch the antics of a field mouse, or how He wants us to care for one another as I learned more and more about the symbiotic relationships in God’s creation.



The story of Jonah is so full of this example. After the whale and storm, there is the example of the leafy plant and worm. You remember the story.

One time many years ago I felt like giving up on life, on everything. I went for a long walk up the road near some woods even as I tried to pray for comfort and support. I needed a word from God. There on a rocky cliff was a pine tree growing out of a rock – no soil, no big support system – but hanging on! I remember thinking then that Yahweh was speaking to me: “Look at my creation. Even a tree knows to hang on – and does. If I care enough about a little tree, do you not think I will help you get through this rocky time in your life?”

I bowed my head and said, “I heard you, Father. Thank you for not giving up on me when it seems like I have no future, you are still there. Thank you.” And I walked back home to live and laugh another day.

I’m not saying we should be looking for “signs”. Neither am I saying every little thing that naturally happens is God speaking to us. Don’t get superstitious. But – on the other hand – don’t miss some of the signals God uses. The Eternal tells us in the last days there will be “signs in the heavens”, for example. (Luke 21:25; Acts 2:19).

(minister’s story about wife dying – leaves falling off the trees.... Felt the breath of God on his cheek as the wind blew, and all the leaves fell down off a massive tree in front of him... and he took this as a message to run back home as his wife was dying and in her final moments. That was the case.)

### **(track 5) THROUGH VISIONS, DREAMS, ANGELS**

I believe as Joel 2 says, as we get ever closer to the end of the “end time”, we will once again **see visions, dreams** being used as a way for God to communicate to His servants and to His family. Peter took the events of Acts 2 to be the fulfillment of that. But is it possible there’s still more?

Are you ready for it? Would you accept someone telling you they had a vision? You’ll have to test the message to be sure it truly was from God and squares with God’s word – but I hope we will believe that in the end time men and women will have dreams and visions from God. We know in the Old covenant, God used dreams and visions a lot as a way to communicate to Abraham, Jacob (Gen. 46:2), Jeremiah 1:11, to Ezekiel 1:1; to Daniel 2:19 and 10:7 and so many others. Yahweh himself says He used dreams and visions (Num 10:9). Primarily today He speaks to us by the Holy Spirit, but I don’t think the days of visions and dreams are over.

We’ve become *afraid* of visions and dreams and we get all spooked out, thinking that somehow is of the devil. Well, don’t tell Peter, Paul, Ananias, and others that! (Acts 10, 11:5; 12:9; 16:9-10).

Joel 2:28 and Acts 2:17 says in these last days God’s spirit will cause old men to dream dreams and young men to see visions. Was that just for the day of Pentecost? Has God forgotten how to use or send visions? I think not.

Even in Paul’s day, after Acts 2, there were those who had visions and dreams. Paul didn’t call them crazy. Would we? Remember Ananias had a vision about Paul (Acts 9). Peter had a vision of

the sheet of unclean animals. Paul had a vision of a Macedonian man asking them to go there (Acts 16:9). Acts 18:9 says “the Lord spoke to Paul by night in a vision...”

God hasn't changed, and doesn't change.

The whole book of Apocalypse – meaning the revealing of God's mind – was a long vision, a revealing from the Alpha and the Omega. Paul had a vision of being taken up to Paradise (2 Cor. 12:2-4). I could go on and on. Again, God doesn't change. He used visions over and over and will use them again. Be prepared for it. And don't mock revelation and visions when it truly starts to happen. Our physical lives – and spiritual lives too – may someday depend on identifying true visions, testing them, believing them and understanding them.

Having said that, let me re-state, God speaks to us today primarily through His Spirit, speaking to us from the Son (Heb. 1:1-2). I know that. But I also know that even after the resurrection and after Acts 2 Pentecost, that visions and dreams continued for many years in the early church. I think they will happen more and more.

God may even speak to us from time to time by His holy **ANGELS**. Be open to this possibility, because even the author of Hebrews reminds us to be hospitable for we may be entertaining angels, though unaware of it at the time (Hebrews 13:2). When Almighty sent his messengers before, they were often mistaken for regular people. Other times they appeared as men in bright, shining garments. Angels appeared to the women at the tomb, several times to Paul, an angel delivered Peter from prison, and on and on. *I don't think God has put his angels into a retirement home just yet.* We certainly know angels stayed with Lot, came to see and talk to Daniel, and on and on. The age of angels – powerful spirit beings from God's throne room – communing with mankind, are not over.

Let me tell you *the story of a minister's wife who had a stranger, an unwanted man, come* into her home, intent on possibly hurting or raping her. As the woman prayed, while being forced to walk into a bedroom with the man, the man suddenly looked up above and behind her head, as if intently looking at someone there. He became terror stricken as if seeing a really big man. “OK, OK, I'm leaving” – he shouted, as he fled in terror from the house. The minister's wife looked behind her and saw nothing. But she's convinced he saw a big burly angel standing there, protecting her.

So be open to the possibility that you could someday hear from God through an angel some day. Hagar did – as she and her boy were dying of thirst. Samson's parents did. Gideon heard God's word through an angel.

*King David encountered an angel at a threshing floor*, and this angel had a sword in His hand as he went about killing much of the population (1 Chronicles 21:15-20). Remember – if it mentions a particular place, it is for a reason. *Threshing floors are where you purify the seed* – separating the wheat from the chaff. David was being purified and was getting rid of what was chaff in his life and coming down to what we most important: holy seed.

(TRACK 6 ) CONCLUSION

We could go on forever and ever on this subject, for I'm convinced the ways God communicates with us are endless. Studying for this has certainly opened my eyes and ears a lot.

Let's tune in to God's voice. Let's cock our head, listen intently, silence the noise around our lives – and listen. When we ask for God to help us or others in prayer, don't just rush off after the amen. Stop and listen. Hang around a bit. Ask God to speak to you by deep feelings, urges, and thoughts. Test the spirits, test the message that it is true to God's word and God's way – and then obey the message, the voice of God.

But if we're living a life of sin, we distance ourselves from God and His voice will grow ever more faint, until someday we lose the Spirit altogether. If we disregard His voice and His messages, then we are 'turning a deaf ear' to what we have been given.

That's it for now my brothers and sisters in God. Share with me how you are honing your ability to hear God's voice – or if this message helps you. I could use the encouragement too. Let me share something with you. Thousands of people go to this website. However, I often wonder if it's doing any good or helping anyone. I pray about it and ask for direction whether to keep it on or not.

Let me share with you what happens. Every time so far, that I've had a strong inclination to take the website down, I pray about it, and test the spirit. Is the feeling to take the website down a message from God or Satan? Anyway, I pray that God make it very clear to me if I should keep it on or take it down. Every time so far that I've done that, within 24 hours of that prayer, sometimes almost instantly, I get an email from someone I've never heard of before telling me how much they appreciate the website. That's happened several times just recently in fact. From people new to me from all over the USA, Australia, Africa, and Canada.

That inspires me, because I received a word from Yahweh – speaking through His body, the brethren. I thank those of you who responded to Yahweh's urgings to call or say something.

God bless you all, continue to listen – and continue to tune in your receiver as it were, so you are *ready to hear* God's words for you. Let him or her who has an ear to hear, HEAR.

Passover and the days of Unleavened Bread will soon be here. Be sure to check out the many timeless pre-Passover messages on the website going back to 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 and so on. Just go to [www.LightontheRock.com](http://www.LightontheRock.com)

If you've found this message helpful, tell others about it – and tell me about helpful websites you are using as well.

Until next time, your brother in Yahshua the Messiah, Philip Shields.