## **Devine Hearing Aid**

In an age where narrative is easily manipulated, how much of what we see and hear can we trust? As with a bridle life storytellers tug our emotions to hold sway over our minds.

As we see in Genesis 37:31-34, without astute discernment, information presented to us can drive us to conclusions and decisions that take us far from the truth of God. Don't even rely on mere experience here. Jacob used the same media and similar props to deceive his father. Yet he got snared by the same scheme.

The source of the "Truth" we trust becomes the architect of the reality we respond to.

"When He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come." John 16:13

Jesus teaches us that we cannot find "Truth" on our own but must be guided to "Truth" by the Holy Spirit. The truth the Holy Spirit offers guides us through what is happening now, and also equips and empowers us for the "Things" to come. It is a truth that liberates (John 8:32). We can trust in the Holy Spirit as a reliable guide to Truth. Therefore we must short the door to the opinions around us; Pray, Listen, Trust, and Follow in obedience as Sheep that know the voice of their Shepherd!!!

We may not be able to affect what we hear, but we can affect HOW we hear, by using a hearing aid. Hearing aids does not affect is heard but how it is heard.

Jesus said in Luke 8:18 "Take heed therefore how you hear." (NKJV) He didn't say take heed of what you hear but how you hear what you hear. For how we are hearing determines our response to what we have heard. So now, how then shall we hear? What is our hearing aid?

Scripture says, "Faith comes by hearing and hearing BY the word of God," Romans 10:17 (NKJV). A response of faith comes by hearing BY the word of God or hearing with the word of God. The word interprets what we hear. If not, we will be sucked into the mould of this world.

Daily practice hearing from the word of God first before hearing from the world. Get your hearing aid first. We must trust God to help us bring under subjection the noise of the world with the testimony of His word and His precious promises that helps us become partakers of His Divine nature. "And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share his divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires." (2 Peter 1:4 NLT)

Apostle John had survived very cruel persecution before being exiled on the island of Patmos where he received and wrote the book of Revelation "...the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, "Come up here..." (Rev 4:1)

John was in great pain and distress, but his experience and familiarity with the voice of God allowed him to recognize Jesus' voice over his own pain and distress. So many of us are desperate to hear God's voice in moments of difficulty. But God's voice needs getting used to. Remember that it is in the time of peace that armies prepare for war. Start by hearing the Holy Spirit about the smallest things. Pray that the Holy Spirit will awaken your sensitivity to His whispers.

Jeremiah was rightly terrified by the enormity of God's call on his life until God fed him His word (Jeremiah 1:9-10). Soon after God's hearing aid was in place, God tested the hearing aid by asking Jeremiah what he saw, and Jeremiah could now see and judge perfectly. God said "you have seen well" (Jeremiah 1:11-12)!!!

Jesus wants us to be part of the process of His work here on earth. We can only truly partner with Him if we follow Mary's instruction on how to use our God given hearing aids. Mary said to the servants in John 2:5 "Whatever He [Jesus] says to you, do it." The miracle of turning water to wine was a joint venture

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between Jesus and the servants that fetched the water and served without question. Jesus gave His instructions and they obeyed totally. They filled the waterpots to the brim, and served it to the master of ceremony without even tasting it first. The more we allow the hearing aid to work the stronger it gets and the more our faith grows! The servants acted (judged the situation) purely based on the word that Jesus gave! (John 2:6-10)

Jesus is the solution to the innumerable and insurmountable problems and needs in this world. Can we as believers in Christ be solution bringers? Only if we are in tune to His voice and full of faith to act without hesitation as He directs. It will be great if we and our households will humbly come to Jesus and take up this glorious hearing aid and truly be Sheep that know and follow the voice of their Good Shepherd (John 10:27-28).

God bless you bountifully as you continue to partner with us in *Building Strong Families and Raising Godly Children*.

Your Co-labourer,

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