



“Are your Spiritual Senses in Tune?”

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Scripture Reading: John 10:14-16

Introduction

This evening they asked me to preach over the Holy Spirit. We all believe in God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost as one, The Holy Trinity; it is the foundation of our Faith. But this evening the Spirit of God has given me this sermon to preach so that the Holy Spirit becomes a real part of our lives.

Let's turn in our Bibles to **Matthew 7:21-23**. I never truly understood the enormity of these texts until recently. I asked myself: **“Why would Jesus say this?”** He was obviously referring to “Believers”/“Christians” but this question can only be answered with another question, which is the title of my sermon tonight: **“Are your Spiritual Senses in Tune?”**

The five senses we all have are: 1) Hearing, 2) Sight, 3) Touch, 4) Taste, 5) Smell. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we will define these five senses in a Spiritual context.

Hearing

My version of the Scripture Reading says: **“Jesus said I am the Good Sheppard all who hear My voice, respond and follow me.”** We need to analyze this text in the context in which it was written. In Biblical times and still even today, sheep know their Shepherd's voice. In the Middle East climate changes are drastic, especially when you compare the hot sun of daylight and the bitter freezing temperatures at night. A Good Shepherd knows when to move the flocks/herds during different seasons in order to provide plenty of food. So, the sheep know the sound of their Shepherd's voice and call.

Here's an example: There could be other Shepherd's with their herds at a well drinking water for instance, and though the herds may appear to be mixed up and jumbled together; when the Shepherd calls His sheep, they respond immediately and follow Him, and carry out His commands.

Because the sheep know if they don't listen to the voice of the Shepherd, they will probably freeze to death in the bitter cold of night, or not have enough food and starve to death. They understand and know that their Shepherd is there to keep them Safe, Protect them from Danger, Provide Nourishment, basically the Shepherd provides their every need” if **they follow Him.**” To the sheep the Shepherd is their Paradise, their Refuge.

The sheep hear the voice of their Shepherd, and they follow in Faith, Believing and Knowing that their Shepherd has their best interest in mind. So as true Believers in our Lord God; when God calls us, we must follow, and obey His commands, Because God only wants to keep us safe, provide for us and protect us from the Danger of losing Paradise, Eternal Life in Heaven.

We can still hear the voice of OUR Shepherd, Our Father in Heaven, today, right now, through the Holy Spirit that speaks to us God's will. Most of the time if we hear a sound, or hear something, its human nature to try to see where the sound came from; But in order to hear God's Calling and see God's Will, we need **Spiritual Vision.**

Vision

If we cannot Hear the Will of God through the Holy Spirit, then we can never gain the Spiritual Vision that God demands of His Followers'. You are probably asking yourselves, brother what is this Spiritual Vision you are talking about? Now pay close attention to this: **With Spiritual Vision we can see the world through God's Eyes and not worldly eyes.** Only with Spiritual Vision can we See God's Purpose for our lives. Only with Spiritual Vision can we see God's Mighty Hand at work in our lives. Only with Spiritual Vision can we have Faith for solutions to our problems. Only with Spiritual Vision can we have Peace in the middle of the Storm in our lives.

We need to look at our lives in a Spiritual Mirror and determine where our Walk with God is; don't measure yourself by the world's standards, measure yourself through God's Standards. God will not force His help upon us, we have to do our part and acknowledge our areas of improvement and God's Grace is abundant and sufficient to do the rest. Having true Faith, is believing in a Power that cannot be seen that is why....

It is vital that we grasp the importance of our Spiritual Senses, Paul tells us: ***"That we are not fighting a Physical Battle, but a Spiritual Battle against Evil in this world"***. The physical elements of this world will not help us win the Spiritual Battle we are in. We need to develop and train our Spiritual Senses if we are going to fight this Spiritual Battle as part of God's Chosen Army of Believers. My dear Brothers and Sisters we are in the middle of the Great Controversy; But God has equipped us with weapons in which to contribute to winning this Battle.

Touch

Let's look at: **Ephesians 4:8,11,12** *8)"When he ascended He gave Gifts to men. 11)"And He Himself gave some to be Apostles, some Prophets, some Evangelists, and some Pastors and Teachers, 12)for the equipping of the Saints for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the Body of Christ"*

Each of us has gifts and talents that God has chosen for us to aid in this Spiritual Battle. Each and every one of us has access to the Fruits of the Spirit. With the Fruits of the Spirit we are able to **Touch and Impact lives.** The Holy Spirit will guide and help you develop your Gifts and Talents for the Kingdom of God. Don't worry if you see others that have a greater perceived gift than you, or if you are not able to Preach, Sing or Lead out, God has a plan and a purpose for you, but you must seek His guidance and the instruction of the Holy Spirit.

Too many people place too high of a value on Knowing, Quoting, and Reciting Scripture (*Don't get me wrong, that all has its place*) but God looks at the motive in your heart; I believe if we focus our energy on **living the word of God through our Thoughts, Words and Actions, our lives will be a living testimony of the Power of God** to others. I would rather live one Bible text to the Glory of God, than be able to quote 20 or 30 text off the top of my head.

There is Power in the Word of God; God spoke the World into existence. That same power is still manifested in Scripture; and through the example Jesus left us with His Ministry. We just need to Fuel the Fire of the Holy Spirit within us. Our following Text reveals to us how to fuel and feed the Fire of the Holy Spirit.

Taste

Let's look at: **Matthew 5:6** "***Blessed are those who Hunger and Thirst for righteousness for they shall be filled.***"

In order for us to Taste anything, you have to either Eat or Ingest something and/or Drink something. So, in other words this Text is saying: Blessed are those who Thirst and Hunger for the Word of God, where His Righteousness prevails.

Another way of seeing this text would be Blessed are those who seek to Taste the righteousness of God, for they will be filled. The Word of God (*Our Bible*) is alive AMEN!!! But in order to truly understand the chemistry of this text we have to define (2) key words Hunger and Thirst. The dictionary defines these words as the following:

- **Hunger** = Strong desire, to lack nourishment, to feel Hungry.
- **Thirst** = Feeling caused by lack of water, to feel the lack of a drink, to be thirsty.

How many here have ever felt really Hungry? Maybe because they missed a meal or you haven't eaten anything all day; and when someone puts a plate of rice and beans, tamale, or your favorite dish/food in front of you, your mouth waters in anticipation of eating that dish right?

Or how about, if you have been working outside all day in the sun and you haven't drank any water, and someone hands you an ice cold glass of water, and you drink it, you feel like you come alive again, you are refreshed and renewed, what do you think yes or no?

So, in this context we should Hunger and Thirst for the Word of God, we must Hunger and Thirst to search and study the Scriptures. Jesus said in:

Matthew 4:4 "***Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of GOD***".

Scripture is bound and infilled with the Holy Spirit, when we read it. Through the Blood of Christ we receive the Power that is stored up (*infilled*) in those Holy inspired "God-breathed" words. It's like a battery of stored energy and power that can only be released when you install it into a device, instrument or mechanism. Likewise, The Holy Scriptures Recharge and Power our spirit man "inner being" so that the Power of God can flow through us.

Here is where we need to look at ourselves in that Spiritual Mirror and see where we are in our Relationship with God. Only through Spiritual Vision can we see that we lack nourishment and that we lack water, but not Earthly nourishment and Earthly water; my Brothers and Sisters Our Spiritual Nourishment (*The Word of God*).

We must truly Hunger for the Word of God and have a strong desire for the Word. We must Thirst for Spiritual Water (*Jesus Christ in our lives*). If we truly Thirst for the Giver of Life we will be Refreshed, Renewed and Born Again, Come alive under the Blood of Jesus Christ.

You have to feed the Fire of the Holy Spirit in your heart, with The Word of God!

Smell

Our last Sense is Smell; but in order to smell you have to breathe in, right? Through **Genesis** we know that **God is our Breathe of Life**. Solomon tells us in **Ecclesiastes** that: *“our lives are but a breath in the cold air, that it’s there one second and gone the next.”*

Matthew 7:20 tells us: *“By their Fruits, you will know them”* what Fruits are we bearing for the Kingdom? If we call ourselves Christians, we must make our lives count for the Kingdom of God, and ONLY for the Glory of God.

My Dear Brother and Sister’s we have to tune our hearts to **Hear His Calling**, in order to receive **True Sight**, which only **Spiritual Vision provides**. Through that Vision we can **Touch** as many lives as possible with the Love of God, so that they may **Hunger and Thirst for the Word of God**, as we should, and to Spiritually **Taste Salvation**.

We need to take time to **Smell** the roses, and not be so caught up in the things of this world, and realize though we are in this World, we are not a part of this world. **The Spirit of God is our Breathe of Life...Live your life for His Kingdom and build your life on the Rock of Ages, instead of building your Kingdom on Sand (this Earth)**. The Holy Spirit is our means of feeling the **Presence of God in our daily lives**.

In Closing

Acts 1:8 relates the account of when Jesus ascended to heaven. Jesus tells His Disciples *“They will receive the Power of the Holy Spirit”*. You see when Jesus walked among the Disciples; They were in the Presence of God, the Power of God walked among them.

When Jesus ascended to Heaven, He told the Disciples in **John 14:26** *“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”*

The Holy Spirit would be with them, as He was with them Teaching, Guiding and Instructing them what the Will of the Father was; and the Holy Spirit would be with them so they would know the Will of God.

When Jesus was here on Earth His name **Immanuel meant (God is with us)**, My dear Brother’s and Sisters’, the same God that created the Heaven’s and the Earth, is the same God Today, and will be the same God Tomorrow. Though God the Father and God the Son are in Heaven, God is with us through the Holy Spirit; and through the Holy Spirit we will know the Will of God. **Romans 12:2** Explains further what having your Spiritual Senses in tune means:

“You must be transformed inwardly and renew your mind so then you will know the Will of God”

Jesus told Nicodemus in order to enter the Kingdom of Heaven you must be Born Again. There are people who spend their whole life in Church and never are truly Born Again by the Spirit of God. Born Again means that the old self, concerned with the world must be buried, and a new vessel of Light must emerge or be Re-born. **Your human earthly Senses die, and your Spiritual Senses are born.**

Many people eagerly accept Christ as Savior, but reluctantly accept Him as Master and Ruler over their lives in submitting to the converting power of the Holy Spirit. My dear Brothers and Sisters when you are baptized with the Holy Spirit, as it tells us in **Acts 1:5**, YOU WILL HEAR IT, SEE IT, FEEL IT, THIRST AND HUNGER FOR IT, IT WILL BE YOUR BREATHE OF FRESH AIR, IT WILL GIVE YOU PEACE IN YOUR HEART. So, I leave you tonight with the same (2) questions we started with tonight:

- 1) What does **Matthew 7:23 Mean?** ***“And then I declare to them, I never knew you; depart from Me, you practice lawlessness!***
- 2) **Are Your Spiritual Senses in Tune with God?**

May God Bless you and may the Holy Spirit guide you and Baptize you with Truth, and I hope and Pray that our Life song may Sing Praise to our Creator!!
Thank You and Good Night!!!