

God Wants His People Informed

Most people in the world have neither a clear idea of what the will of God is or where to go to find it. Many think that God works in mysterious ways, and that no one can really know or understand them. This is not the testimony of God's Word.

Ephesians 1:8,9:

Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence.

Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself.

Ephesians 5:17:

Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord *is*.

God is clear in His communication to those who really want to know. Throughout history God has kept His people informed. He wants His people to know His will so they can do it and reap the benefits.

Deuteronomy 30:10-14:

If thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which are written in this book of the law, *and* if thou turn unto the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul.

For this commandment which I command thee this day, it *is* not hidden from thee, neither *is* it far off.

It *is* not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?

Neither *is* it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?

But the word *is* very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.

God had His Word which is His will recorded in the Bible so we could learn it and profit from it. God cares about His people.

Isaiah 55:6-11:

Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens *are* higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For *as* the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.

God wants us to learn His will, so we can perform it, thus reaping His benefits. The knowledge that is recorded in God's Word is priceless and extremely beneficial. However, it only helps us if we are willing to do it.

Ezekiel 33:31-32:

And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee *as* my people, and they hear thy words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they shew much love, *but* their heart goeth after their covetousness.

And, lo, thou *art* unto them as a very lovely song of one that hath a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument: for they hear thy words, but they do them not.

God wants His people to understand His will so they can carry out His will on earth.

Jeremiah 36:1-3:

And it came to pass in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, *that* this word came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

Take thee a roll of a book, and write therein all the words that I have spoken unto thee against Israel, and against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spake unto thee, from the days of Josiah, even unto this day.

It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the evil which I purpose to do unto them; that they may return every man from his evil way; that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.

God is going to send a message directly to His people via the prophet Jeremiah. He is doing this so they will not only realize their error, but also that they may change so evil doesn't befall them.

II Timothy 2:15:

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

God wants us to study His Word. Today it is still very near. We should pick up His book the Bible and read it and think about it. This is where you will find the heart of God. When we study God's Word our loving response to it should be to do it.

Another way that God communicates with His children today is through His spirit that He has created in all of His children. He can speak directly to them through His gift of holy spirit which is received at the time of the new birth. It is a new creation in you. It is God in Christ in you, also called the inner man or the new man.

Ephesians 3:16:

That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man.

II Corinthians 4:16:

For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward *man* is renewed day by day.

Ephesians 4:24:

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Colossians 3:10:

And have put on the new *man*, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.

Colossians 1:27:

To whom God would make known what *is* the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

The new man, the inner man is that new creation in you received at the time of the new birth. It is spirit. It is God's seed being born within you.

I Peter 1:23:

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

God is spirit. When His gift of holy spirit is created in the born-again one, God can communicate directly to that spirit in you.

Philippians 2:13:

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.

Some may think that God pushes us around to get done what He desires. Kenneth Wuest's translation of this verse communicates the heart of what God is trying to say.

Wuest's translation of Philippians 2:13:

For God is the One who is constantly putting forth His energy in you, both in the form of your being desirous of and of your doing His good pleasure.

God so energies within us that He gives us the desire to do what He wants done, and the energy to do it. God doesn't do it apart from our free will, and we can't do it independently of Him.

When the information is received from God via the spirit, the gift of Christ in you, it is received by our spiritual five senses. We receive it spiritually, but it may seem like it is coming through our senses of seeing, hearing, smelling tasting or touching.

Matthew 17:3:

And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him.

This was at the time of the lord's transfiguration. Let's observe the context.

Matthew 17:1-9:

And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart,

And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.

And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him.

Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.

While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

And when the disciples heard *it*, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid.

And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid.

And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only.

And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.

Jesus told the apostles who were with him that they had just seen a vision from God. They received it through their spiritual vision of sight. Moses and Elias [Elijah] were not actually there in person.

II Kings 6:17:

And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain *was* full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

The Syrian king had sent horses, chariots and a great host to capture the prophet. However, God protected His spokesman with a host of “spiritual warriors.” Elisha asked God to show them to his servant through his spiritual eyesight.

II Kings 6:14-17:

Therefore sent he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host: and they came by night, and compassed the city about.

And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?

And he answered, Fear not: for they that *be* with us *are* more than they that *be* with them.

And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain *was* full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

Peter was given a vision in Acts 10.

Acts 10:10-19:

And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance [saw a vision],

And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:

Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat.

But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean.

And the voice *spake* unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, *that* call not thou common.

This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven.

Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made enquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate,

And called, and asked whether Simon, which was surnamed Peter, were lodged there.

While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit [God by way of the spirit] said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee.

God can communicate with His people when they need to know specific information. He can utilize any of our senses. In fact in the record in Acts 10, God utilized vision and hearing. In verses 10, 17, and 19, it said that Peter saw a vision; while in verse 13 he heard a voice. In Acts 9 we see vision and hearing again.

Acts 9:10-16:

And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I *am here*, Lord.

And the Lord *said* unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for *one* called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth,

And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting *his* hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:

And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.

But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

For I will shew him how great things he must suffer [endure] for my name's sake.

God talked to His people in the Old and New Testaments. Why can't he talk to His children today? He does frequently, but many are like the young boy Samuel, they haven't been taught the how to receive information from God.

1 Samuel 3:1-10:

And the child Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD was precious in those days; *there was* no open vision.

And it came to pass at that time, when Eli *was* laid down in his place, and his eyes began to wax dim, *that* he could not see;

And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God *was*, and Samuel was laid down *to sleep*;

That the LORD called Samuel: and he answered, Here *am I*.

And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here *am I*; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down.

And the LORD called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here *am I*; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again.

Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed unto him.

And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here *am I*; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the LORD had called the child.

Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, LORD; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth.

Samuel must have learned his lesson well. He became God's prophet, His spokesman, for a long period of time. In chapter 9 we clearly see again how God communicated with him via hearing.

I Samuel 9:15:

Now the LORD had told Samuel in his ear a day before Saul came, saying.

One of the ways in which God showed Jesus Christ the presence of evil spirits was by smell. Spirits have no form, thus they would not smell in the realm of the senses. One cannot see or smell a spirit unless their spiritual senses are being operative.

Luke 24:39:

Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

God showed Jesus Christ that devil spirits were present by having him smell them.

Mark 9:25:

When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, *Thou* dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him.

In the book of Revelation God emphasizes the stink of devil spirits to get His point across as to how nasty Babylon had become.

Revelation 18:2:

And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

There are records in God's Word that show that God utilized the spiritual senses of taste and touch also.

Job 6:30:

Is there iniquity in my tongue? cannot my taste discern perverse things?

Mark 5:30:

And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes?

Jeremiah 1:9:

Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.

Isaiah 6:1-8:

In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.

Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly.

And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, *is* the LORD of hosts: the whole earth *is* full of his glory.

And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke.

Then said I, Woe *is* me! for I am undone; because I *am* a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.

Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, *which* he had taken with the tongs from off the altar:

And he laid *it* upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.

Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here *am* I; send me.

II Kings 4:38-41:

And Elisha came again to Gilgal: and *there was* a dearth in the land; and the sons of the prophets *were* sitting before him: and he said unto his servant, Set on the great pot, and seethe pottage for the sons of the prophets.

And one went out into the field to gather herbs, and found a wild vine, and gathered thereof wild gourds his lap full, and came and shred *them* into the pot of pottage: for they knew *them* not.

So they poured out for the men to eat. And it came to pass, as they were eating of the pottage, that they cried out, and said, O *thou* man of God, *there is* death in the pot. And they could not eat *thereof*.

But he said, Then bring meal. And he cast it into the pot; and he said, Pour out for the people, that they may eat. And there was no harm in the pot.

The conclusion of receiving revelation from God is that you know information that you shouldn't know by your earthly five senses. God gives it to you by your spiritual five senses in order for you to know. You know information in the senses realm [word of knowledge], and then the right application of this knowledge [word of wisdom]. We learn from God what He wants us to know but also what we are to do with the information He gives us.

Isaiah receives information when his lips were touched and he heard a voice, but he was free to respond to the information. He volunteered to go to Israel on behalf of God to deliver God's message.

We read earlier in the book of Acts that God and Ananias had a discussion before Ananias decided to take action on the information. God may keep us informed, but it is up to us to carry out what He tells us.

Revelation given today is to the inner man. It is received via the gift of holy spirit, the new creation in us.

During the Old Testament information was received via the spiritual senses by the spirit that God had put upon them conditionally. The condition was that they could lose it.

God can choose to give phenomena to the believer or the unbeliever. It was available in the Old Testament and in the New Testament. There are many records of God giving phenomena in both.

God wants to reveal specific information to us today about instances that we find ourselves in. He has given us much revelation in His written Word, the Bible. Sometimes though we need to know something about a specific situation, God wants to keep us informed so He tells us

information that will be useful to help us to handle that particular situation. You do not apply this specific revelation to a similar situation.

I Kings 14:1-6

At that time Abijah the son of Jeroboam fell sick.

And Jeroboam said to his wife, Arise, I pray thee, and disguise thyself, that thou be not known to be the wife of Jeroboam; and get thee to Shiloh: behold, there *is* Ahijah the prophet, which told me that *I should be* king over this people.

And take with thee ten loaves, and cracknels, and a cruse of honey, and go to him: he shall tell thee what shall become of the child.

And Jeroboam's wife did so, and arose, and went to Shiloh, and came to the house of Ahijah. But Ahijah could not see; for his eyes were set by reason of his age.

And the LORD said unto Ahijah, Behold, the wife of Jeroboam cometh to ask a thing of thee for her son; for he *is* sick: thus and thus shalt thou say unto her: for it shall be, when she cometh in, that she shall feign herself *to be* another *woman*.

And it was *so*, when Ahijah heard the sound of her feet, as she came in at the door, that he said, Come in, thou wife of Jeroboam; why feignest thou thyself *to be* another? for I *am* sent to thee *with* heavy *tidings*.

God had given the prophet Ahijah information on how to handle this specific situation. He was blind but God revealed unto him who was coming, why she was coming and even that she was coming disguised. Then God told Ahijah what was going to happen to the child and why.

Verses 12,13:

Arise thou therefore, get thee to thine own house: *and* when thy feet enter into the city, the child shall die.

And all Israel shall mourn for him, and bury him: for he only of Jeroboam shall come to the grave, because in him there is found some *good* thing toward the LORD God of Israel in the house of Jeroboam.

Verses 17,18:

And Jeroboam's wife arose, and departed, and came to Tirzah: *and* when she came to the threshold of the door, the child died;

And they buried him; and all Israel mourned for him, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by the hand of his servant Ahijah the prophet.

As we endeavor to do the will of God, He will impart to us information that we need to know.

God had His Word written down so we could easily find out what He requires of us. Then, He may give specific revelation in certain circumstances when we need to know something that we don't know by our five senses.

God wants His people informed so they can carry out His will. When we do, our lives will be fuller and richer and more rewarding than we ever dreamed possible.

Hebrews 1:1:

God, who at sundry [various] times and in divers [many] manners [ways] spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets.

Philippians 3:15:

...and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

Let's walk with God today and enjoy His benefits now and forever.