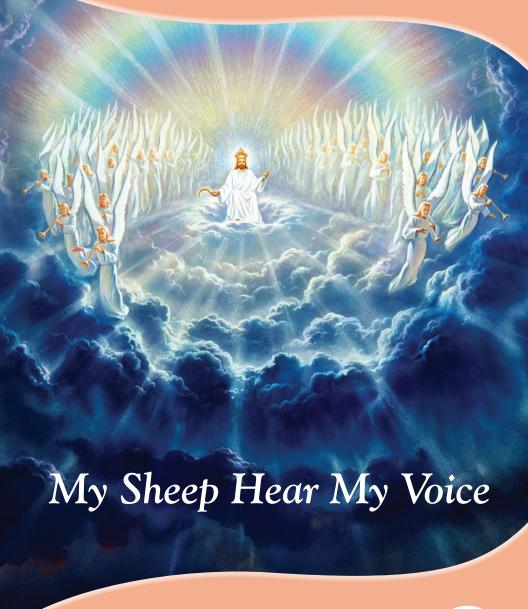
"Prepare to Meet Thy God!"



Who Can Stand? Study Guide

3

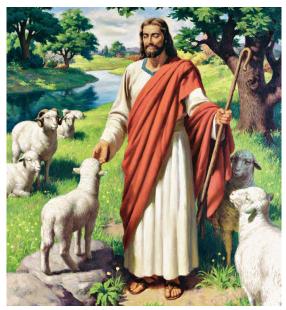
Copyright © 2021 by Christa Negley, PhD Mountain Refuge Ministries mountainrefugeministries.com

Unless otherwise marked, Scripture is from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Scripture marked KJV is from the King James Version.

Scripture marked NIV is from the THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

#### Introduction



Each evening God looked forward to meeting with His newly created couple to share His thoughts and plans. Sitting on a grassy plain beside the river of life, these times of communication were the highlight of their day. Adam and Eve loved to hear God's voice which was like none other—so melodious, kind and full of love. Their minds were filled with the Holy Spirit, and their hearts were in tune with Him; therefore, they had no difficulty discerning His voice.

With the passing of centuries, God has ever remained desirous of communicating with His children. This is especially true in these last days of earth's history. Above all the distractions of the world, God's voice is still heard calling His children to listen, to return to Him, and to come into an intimate, saving relationship with Him. He is eager to explain to them the truths especially applicable to the end time. As this generation is now in the final throes of the great controversy, Jesus has much to say to help His people through the challenging times that lie ahead.

God's final remnant will desire with all their hearts to understand His Word and hear His still, small voice. They will also determine to rightly interpret the impressions of the Spirit and receive the messages He is so graciously sending.

This is now your most glorious privilege and mine!

# What was God's original purpose for the Israelites?

"Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel" (Exodus 19:5, 6).

"We can never attain perfection of character if we do not hear the voice of God and obey His counsel" (SD 90).

**Note:** God longed for the whole nation of Israel to be a kingdom of priests, in order that He might freely communicate His will to them and make them instruments of His saving grace to the world. Unfortunately, when the Israelites gathered around Mt. Sinai and experienced the thunder and lightning, and heard the sound of the trumpet, they stayed at a distance and said to Moses, "You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die" (Exodus 20:19). "And Moses said to the people, 'Do not fear; for God has come to test you, and that His fear may be before you, so that you may not sin" (Exodus 20:20).

**Note:** God desired to do for them that which He now intends to accomplish in the final remnant. With our cooperation, He will continue cleansing us from all sin until we can clearly hear God's voice speaking to our minds and immediately learn to reject the voice of the enemy. We must not rest satisfied until we have an ear sensitive to the still, small voice of the Holy Spirit, which is vital to our spiritual growth and witness for Him.

# What is God's invitation to spiritual Israel today?

"For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words ... But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem ... to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant. ... See that you do not refuse Him who speaks" (Hebrews 12:18–25, emphasis supplied).

# 3

### How is Jesus our example in listening to His Father while He was on earth?

"The Lord GOD has given Me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him who is weary. He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear to hear as the learned. The Lord GOD has opened My ear; And I was not rebellious, nor did I turn away" (Isaiah 50:4, 5).

**Note:** Jesus recognized the incredible mission of His life. He allowed His Father to awaken Him morning by morning and then He spent time listening to what His Father had planned for Him that day. In this way, He was enabled to fulfill His work while on earth. Jesus knew who He was and why He was here, yet He continually sought His Father's wisdom to fulfill His mission. This was the secret to His effective and powerful ministry.

"The Son of God was surrendered to the Father's will, and dependent upon His power. So utterly was Christ emptied of self that He made no plans for Himself. He accepted God's plans for Him, and day by day the Father unfolded His plans. So should we depend upon God, that our lives may be the simple outworking of His will" (DA 208).

"We cannot for one moment separate ourselves from Christ with safety. We may have His presence to attend us at every step" (MYP 115).

**Note:** Jesus knows the journey that we, His final remnant, will need to take before He comes to rescue us from this world of sin and suffering; therefore, He has much to say to us. Living at this time of earth's history requires wise discernment, so that we might know the will of God in every matter that pertains to us and our families. We cannot afford to miss one communication that He is sending us. The stakes are high! God is now preparing us individually for the close of probation and the second coming of Jesus. We need to clearly hear the Holy Spirit as we participate in

our complete cleansing and purification. This is the only way whereby we can fulfill the blueprint plan that He ordained for us before the foundations of the world.



## How was Enoch an example for those who will be translated when Jesus comes again?

"And Enoch walked with God" (Genesis 5:24).

"Did he [Enoch] see God by his side? Only by faith. He knew that the Lord was there, and he adhered steadfastly to the principles of truth. We, too, are to walk with God. ... We can have what Enoch had. We can have Christ as our constant companion. Enoch walked with God, and when assailed by the tempter, he could talk with God about it. He had no 'It is written' as we have, but he had a knowledge of his heavenly Companion. He made God his Counsellor, and was closely bound up with Jesus. And Enoch was honored in this course. He was translated to heaven without seeing death. And those who will be translated at the close of time, will be those who commune with God on earth" (1BC 1087, emphasis supplied).

"Refer every thought and action to Him, inquiring: 'Is this the way of the Lord?' If they did they would walk with God, as did Enoch" (6T 393).

"The Lord will teach us our duty just as willingly as He will teach somebody else. If we come to Him in faith, He will speak His mysteries to us personally. Our hearts will often burn within us as One draws nigh to commune with us as He did with Enoch" (DA 668).



## As we listen to God's voice, what can we expect?

In Proverbs 1:23, NIV, we read, "If you had responded to my rebuke, I would have poured out my heart to you and made my thoughts known to you."

"Listen now to my voice; I will give you counsel, and God will be with you" (Exodus 18:19).

"Oh, that My people would listen to Me, that Israel would walk in My ways!" (Psalm 81:13).

**Note:** All through the Old Testament, we read of God seeking a people who are willing to hear His voice and obey Him. His invitation to listen to Him speak comes from a heart of love that only desires those things which are in our best interest and the interests of the eternal kingdom.



## How does responding to God's rebuke open our hearts to hear His voice?

"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne" (Revelation 3:19–21).

Note: God continually seeks individuals with whom He can share the thoughts and feelings that are on His heart. Those who respond to His discipline and gentle rebuke—through confession and repentance—are enabled to hear His voice. As we come into agreement with Him on an issue in our lives, our minds are then rendered more capable of hearing Him reveal deeper spiritual truths that we would not have been able to comprehend otherwise. He is able to strengthen our minds to understand the deep things of God because our hearts are fully committed to Him. "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him" (2 Chronicles 16:9).



### What are some of the ways that God speaks to us?

"God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son" (Hebrews 1:1, 2). "There are three ways in which the Lord reveals His will to us, to guide us, and to fit us to guide others. How may we know His voice from that of a stranger? How shall we distinguish it from the voice of a false shepherd? God reveals His will to us in *His word*, the Holy Scriptures. His voice is also revealed in *His providential workings*. ... Another way in which God's voice is heard is through the appeals of His Holy Spirit, *making impressions upon the heart*" (5T 512, emphasis supplied).

"Lay all your plans before God, to be carried out or given up, as His providence shall indicate. Accept His plans instead of your own, even though their acceptance requires the abandonment of cherished projects" (7T 44).

"Many are still tested as was Abraham. They do not hear the voice of God speaking directly from the heavens, but He calls them by the teachings of His word and the events of His providence" (PP 126).

**Note:** God speaks to us through the life of Jesus, His providential workings, His Word, other people, and the impressions of the Holy Spirit.

# Why do we have difficulty discerning the inner voices speaking to us?

What is our only hope? "For thousands of years Satan has been experimenting upon the properties of the human mind, and he has learned to know it well. By his subtle workings in these last days he is linking the human mind with his own, imbuing it with his thoughts; and he is doing this work in so deceptive a manner that those who accept his guidance know not that they are being led by him at his will. The great deceiver hopes so to confuse the minds of men and women that none but his voice will be heard" (MM 111).

**Note:** Man, created in the image of God, was imbued with the mind of God. Having the capacity to communicate with his Creator, he could know Him intimately. In the Garden of Eden, our first parents only heard the voice of God's Spirit in the inner man. This changed when they ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Then their minds were open to hear the voice of the enemy.

Satan's voice comes in many guises, making it ever so difficult for the human mind to discern whose voice it is hearing. He uses the media, people who are imbued with his spirit, modern education, contemporary culture, and sometimes even our family and friends. Learning to know and distinguish the voice of God is crucial because Satan uses the same pathways of our brain that God created for us to hear His own voice. This makes it much more difficult to discern whether a particular impression originates from the mind of God or whether it comes from the mind of the evil one.

"It [the voice of God] will be recognized if we do not separate our souls from Him by walking in our own ways, doing according to our own wills, and following the promptings of an unsanctified heart, until the senses have become so confused that eternal things are not discerned, and the voice of Satan is so disguised that it is accepted as the voice of God. You ought to be able to distinguish His voice" (5T 512).

**Note:** Our only hope is to "be not conformed to this world, but [being] transformed by the renewing of [our] mind, that [we] may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (Romans 12:2). By becoming familiar with His Word, we align ourselves more and more with the mind of Christ. Thus we will be enabled to distinguish between the voice of the enemy and the voice of Jesus speaking to our hearts and minds.



# What are some of the reasons why Christians have difficulty hearing and discerning the voice of God?

#### 1. They are not believing that God still desires to speak to us today.

God still speaks to us today. "Give ear and hear my voice, Listen and hear my speech" (Isaiah 28:23). "Christ is ever sending messages to those who listen for His voice" (ML 15).

### 2. They are not taking time to listen to the still, small voice through the study of the Word and the impressions of the Holy Spirit.

We must set aside time to listen to what God is telling us. "Prayer and faith will do what no power on earth can accomplish. We are seldom, in all respects, placed in the same position twice. We continually have new scenes and new trials to pass through, where past experience cannot be a sufficient guide. We must have the continual light that comes from God. Christ is ever sending messages to those who listen for His voice" (ML 15, emphasis supplied). "Study His Word and hear God's voice addressing [you]" (5T 577).

### 3. They are clinging to false premises and adhering to preconceived ideas.

An Example: Many of the Messianic prophecies addressed both the humility and suffering of the Son of God and His future Kingship. The prophecies were intertwined so that the people of that day could not readily ascertain their true meaning without the guidance of the Holy Spirit. This point was well proved by the Jewish scholars at the time of Christ's first coming.

Israel of old had been so steeped in their false premises regarding the coming of the Messiah that they rejected the very One they had been expecting for generations. How utterly sad. To have studied the scrolls so diligently, even memorizing large sections of Scripture, yet to miss the object of their study was inconceivable. Not only that, they actually put to death the very One to Whom these prophecies had pointed—all because Jesus did not fit the picture of their erroneous conclusions. It clearly demonstrates that false premises will always lead to false conclusions. "You must lay yourselves and your opinions on the altar of God, put away your preconceived ideas, and let the Spirit of heaven guide into all truth" (TM 476).

### 4. They are believing that the Bible is mainly informational and not for communication with God.

"The word of the living God is not merely written, but spoken. The Bible is God's voice speaking to us, just as surely as though we could hear it with our ears. If we realized this, with what awe would we open God's word, and with what earnestness would we search its precepts! The reading and contemplation of the Scriptures would be regarded as an audience with the Infinite One" (6T 393).

### 5. They are clinging to the security of scholarship while negating the possibility of further light.

"Always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth" (2 Timothy 3:7).

"Those who have trusted to intellect, genius, or talent will not then stand at the head of rank and file. They did not keep pace with the light. ... In the last solemn work few great men will be engaged. They are self-sufficient, independent of God, and He cannot use them" (5T 80).

**Note:** Higher education is a wonderful blessing; however, it also has some inherent pitfalls. The great danger is that the scholar may depend on his/her learning to arrive at truth and at the same time be closed to further light that God may want to reveal. It is only as we learn to depend upon the Holy Spirit and are open to His voice that we are promised an enlightened understanding which will lead us into all truth.

"The result of education should be to enable us to understand the voice of God" (1MCP 52, emphasis supplied).

### 6. They are depending upon others to search out present truth for them.

There is a wonderful example in the Bible of those who did not depend upon others to understand truth. "These [the Bereans] received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so" (Acts 17:11).

"Everyone needs to have a personal experience in obtaining a knowledge of the will of God. We must individually hear Him speaking to the heart. When every other voice is hushed, and in quietness we wait before Him, the silence of the soul makes more distinct the voice of God. He bids us, 'Be still, and know that I am God' (Psalm 46:10)" (RC 118, emphasis supplied).

"We must know what is the voice of God, that we may live by every word that proceeds out of his mouth. We cannot allow these questions to be settled for us by another's mind, or another's judgment. We must search the Scriptures carefully with a heart open to the reception of light and the evidences of truth. We cannot trust the salvation of our souls to ministers, to idle traditions, to human authorities, or to pretensions. We must know for ourselves what God has said. ... It is not to be our study as to what may be the opinion of men, or of popular faith, or what the Fathers have said. We cannot trust to the voice of the multitude, but we want to know what is the voice of God, what is his revealed will. He has left us his own statements, and we must search for the truth as for hidden treasures. We must put away all skepticism, all exaltation of our own ideas. We must humble our hearts by repentance and with contrition of soul, praying for true enlightenment" (RH March 8, 1887).

#### 7. They are not verifying their impressions with the Word.

All impressions that we believe are from God will never contradict His Word. Satan is the master counterfeiter; consequently, every impression must be validated by the truths found in God's Word. Many Christians today are turning to mystical practices in an attempt to connect with God, thus Satan is misleading multitudes. Our only safety is to avoid anything that is not in total harmony with God's Word.

"They are to take their stand on the living word: 'It is written.' This is the only foundation upon which they can stand securely" (9T 16).

# 10 What the vo

#### What is the only way we may distinguish the voice of the Good Shepherd from the voice of the enemy?

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand" (John 10:27, 28). Jesus pointed out that hearing His voice is imperative for our safety; otherwise we may follow the voice of a stranger, namely our enemy. "And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers" (John 10:4, 5).

**Note:** This is a wonderful promise to us today. If we know the voice of Jesus, we will likewise detect the voice of the stranger and not follow his suggestions and counsel. This is why the remnant of His people will make every effort to be closely connected with Jesus every moment of the day.

"Those who are the most closely connected with God are the ones who know His voice when He speaks to them" (5T 134).

We must seek daily for a close, personal relationship with Jesus and be vitally connected to Him. "Confide all to Jesus. ... He proposes to be our friend, to walk with us through all the rough pathways of life. He says to us, I am the Lord thy God; walk with me, and I will fill thy path with light. Jesus, the Majesty of Heaven, proposes to elevate to companionship with Himself those who come to Him with their burdens, their weaknesses, and their cares. ... It is our privilege to have daily a calm, close, happy walk with Jesus" (OHC 97).



# In order for the remnant to face the final test, they must have a deep sense of the presence of Christ. How was this principle illustrated in the life of Moses?

"For he [Moses] endured as seeing Him who is invisible" (Hebrews 11:27).

"Paul, in his Epistle to the Hebrews, says: 'For he endured, as seeing Him who is invisible.' The character that Paul thus ascribes to Moses does not mean simply passive resistance of evil, but perseverance in the right. He kept the Lord ever before him, and the Lord was ever at his right hand to help him" (5T 651).

"Moses did not merely think of God; he saw Him. God was the constant vision before him; he never lost sight of His face. He saw Jesus as his Saviour, and he believed that the Saviour's merits would be imputed to him. This faith was to Moses no guesswork; it was a reality. This is the kind of faith we need, faith that will endure the test. Oh, how often we yield to temptation because we do not keep our eye upon Jesus! Our faith is not continuous because, through self-indulgence, we sin, and then we cannot endure 'as seeing Him who is invisible'" (5T 652).

"Moses had a deep sense of the personal presence of God. He was not only looking down through the ages for Christ to be made manifest in the flesh, but he saw Christ in a special manner accompanying the children of Israel in all their travels. God was real to him, ever present in his thoughts. When misunderstood, when called upon to face danger and to bear insult for Christ's sake, he endured without retaliation. Moses believed in God as one whom he needed and who would help him because of his need. God was to him a present help" (5T 651).

"As a shield from temptation and an inspiration to purity and truth, no other influence can equal the sense of God's presence" (RC 126, emphasis supplied).

"Let the soul be drawn out and upward, that God may grant us a breath of the heavenly atmosphere. We may keep so near to God that in every unexpected trial our thoughts will turn to Him as naturally as the flower turns to the sun" (RC 122).

"The Christian sees the Saviour ever before him, and by beholding, he becomes changed into the same image, from glory to glory. He bears the signature of God. ... He who is a partaker of the divine nature will hold firm to the truth. He will never let go; for the truth holds him" (RC 124, emphasis supplied).

# What is one of the unique characteristics of the Word of God that makes the Holy Spirit necessary to interpret the Word for us?

"For prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit" (2 Peter 1:21).

**Note:** The Bible is timeless in that its principles apply to every generation. Holy men of old were inspired by the Holy Spirit to pen its words of inspiration. Some of the revelations and prophecies were written down in code language because they were especially intended for a later generation. At the time of its fulfillment, it is the work of the Holy Spirit to enlighten His people regarding the correct interpretation of these prophecies. There is no other way for these truths to be correctly deciphered and understood. Using this method, God chose to guard and protect His Word so it could not be tampered with. When the time comes for God's people to understand a particular truth, the Holy Spirit opens the Word to their understanding. For this reason, it is absolutely essential that we allow God's Spirit to lead us into all truth relevant to our time.

"For His church in every generation God has a special truth and a special work. The truth that is hid from the worldly wise and prudent is revealed to the child-like and humble. ... As in earlier ages, the special truths for this time are found, not with the ecclesiastical authorities, but with men and women who are not too learned or too wise to believe the word of God" (COL 78, 79).

**Note:** Jesus had a special message for each era of church history; therefore, He said over and over again to the churches in Revelation 2 and 3, "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." His voice is still speaking to you and me today.

Since the entire Bible is God's Word speaking to our hearts and minds, how important is it to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit in order to discern its significance?

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16, 17).

**Note:** Every word of God penned in the Holy Scriptures is the voice of God speaking to the human soul. As we open the Scriptures, we should earnestly seek God's Spirit to convict us, enlighten us, instruct us, and lead us into all truth. God knows the needs of our heart; through His Spirit, He is able to guide us to the texts of Scripture that will meet our necessities and answer our questions. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to bring about this divine illumination, thus assuring us that we have a Divine Guide by our side.

"We need the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit in order to discern the truths in God's Word. ... As we study the Scriptures, we should pray for the light of God's Holy Spirit to shine upon the Word, that we may see and appreciate its treasures" (RC 125).

"The Holy Spirit is beside every true searcher of God's Word, enabling him to discover the hidden gems of truth. Divine illumination comes to his mind, stamping the truth upon him with a new, fresh importance. He is filled with a joy never before felt. The peace of God rests upon him. The preciousness of truth is realized as never before. A heavenly light shines upon the Word, making it appear as though every letter were tinged with gold. God Himself speaks to the heart, making His Word spirit and life" (RC 128, emphasis supplied).

# What are some of the erroneous approaches to the Word of God?

#### 1. A careless, superficial reading of the Word.

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15, KJV).

"Let all seek to comprehend, to the full extent of their powers, the meaning of the word of God. A mere superficial reading of the inspired word will be of little advantage; for every statement made in the sacred pages requires thoughtful contemplation. ... The student of the word of God should seek to understand the bearing of one passage upon another until the chain of truth is revealed to his vision. ... It requires mental effort and prayerful attention to discover the hidden meaning of the word of God" (CE 101).

"We should diligently study the Bible, asking God for the aid of the Holy Spirit, that we may understand His Word. We should take one verse, and concentrate the mind on the task of ascertaining the thought which God has put in that verse for us. We should dwell on the thought till it becomes our own, and we know 'what saith the Lord'" (LHU 111).

#### 2. Putting your experience higher than the Word.

If experience is given higher regard than God's Word, it puts followers at risk of becoming victims to deception and dangerous spiritual pitfalls. Christian mysticism does not rely upon the Scriptures for its truth and spirituality, but rather upon one's own feelings, impressions, and intuition. Some Christians have been misled to believe that unless they have a mystical and emotional experience, they do not have a true experience with God. It is not only erroneous but also dangerous to look for something more than is recorded in the Scriptures. Some believers have regarded the Scriptures as an optional source of truth rather than the source of truth. The Scriptures alone contain everything the believer needs for life and godliness. (See 2 Peter 1:3.)

#### 3. Higher criticism of the Word of God.

"The warnings of the word of God regarding the perils surrounding the Christian church belong to us today. As in the days of the apostles men tried by tradition and philosophy to destroy faith in the Scriptures, so today, by the pleasing sentiments of higher criticism, evolution, spiritualism, theosophy, and pantheism, the enemy of righteousness is seeking to lead souls into forbidden paths. To many the Bible is as a lamp without oil, because they have turned their minds into channels of speculative belief that bring misunderstanding and confusion. The work of higher criticism, in dissecting, conjecturing, reconstructing, is destroying faith in the Bible as a divine revelation. It is robbing God's word of power to control, uplift, and inspire human lives. By spiritualism, multitudes are taught to believe that desire is the highest law, that license is liberty, and that man is accountable only to himself" (AA 474).

"Keeping his eyes fixed on Christ, he is to move steadily forward in the path marked out, discarding all ideas that are not in harmony with His teaching. The truth of God is to be the subject for his contemplation and meditation. He is to regard the Bible as the voice of God speaking directly to him. Thus he will find the wisdom which is divine" (AA 475, emphasis supplied).

# Does God promise we will hear the still, small voice of the Holy Spirit speaking to our minds?

"For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem; you shall weep no more. He will be very gracious to you at the sound of your cry; When He hears it, He will answer you. And though the Lord gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your teachers will not be moved into a corner anymore, [hidden no more, NIV] but your eyes shall see your teachers. Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way, walk in it, Whenever you turn to the right hand or whenever you turn to the left" (Isaiah 30:19–21, emphasis supplied).

**Note:** What a wonderful privilege it is to commune with the infinite God of heaven and to depend upon His counsel day by day, moment by moment. He longs to help us understand the purpose of our trials and to learn the lessons that He is teaching us, so that we won't make the same mistakes over and over again. By becoming familiar with His voice and obeying Him, we will come to the place where we have continual peace and joy in His presence and a calm assurance of eternal life.

## 16

### What is God's invitation to the Laodiceans, God's final church at the close of time?

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me" (Revelation 3:20).

"To His faithful followers Christ has been a daily companion and familiar friend. They have lived in close contact, in constant communion with God. Upon them the glory of the Lord has risen. In them the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ has been reflected. Now they rejoice in the undimmed rays of the brightness and glory of the King in His majesty. They are prepared for the communion of heaven; for they have heaven in their hearts" (COL 420).

**Note:** What a precious invitation is penned for us in Revelation 3:20—to dwell in His presence by faith and enjoy the privilege of intimate companionship with Him! The essential factor in any relationship is communication. We must get to know each other in order to become friends. And so it is with God. Those who try to reach heaven by any other pathway will find themselves bitterly disappointed in the end, for Jesus will say to them, "I never knew you" (Matthew 7:23). May these words never be spoken to any of us.

#### **Your Commitment to Jesus**

Realizing the importance of discerning the voice of God in your mind, are you willing to earnestly seek Him each day through His Word and the impressions of the Holy Spirit, and come to the place where you discern present truth for this generation?

**Your Response** 

### **Key to Abbreviations of E. G. White Book Titles**

| AA The Acts of the Apostles                              |
|--|
| CEChristian Education                                    |
| COL Christ's Object Lessons                              |
| DA The Desire of Ages                                    |
| LHU Lift Him Up  |
| MM Medical Ministry                                      |
| MLMy Life Today  |
| MYP Messages to Young People                             |
| OHC Our High Calling                                     |
| PP Patriarchs and Prophets                               |
| RC Reflecting Christ                                     |
| RH The Review and Herald periodical                      |
| SD Sons and Daughters of God                             |
| TMTestimonies to Ministers                               |
| 1BC The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, Volume 1 |
| 1MCP Mind, Character and Personality, Volume 1           |
| 5T Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5                  |
| 6T Testimonies for the Church, Volume 6                  |
| 7T Testimonies for the Church, Volume 7                  |
| 9T Testimonies for the Church, Volume 9                  |

# "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free!"

# This Study Guide is number three in a series of twelve.

Study Guide 1-"Watchman, What of the Night?"

Study Guide 2—"For Such a Time as This"

Study Guide 3—"My Sheep Hear My Voice"

Study Guide 4—"Then Shall the Sanctuary be Cleansed"

Study Guide 5—"The Hour of His Judgment has Come"

Study Guide 6-"Holy, Harmless [and] Undefiled"

Study Guide 7—"That Your Sins May Be Blotted Out"

Study Guide 8-"And the Earth was Illuminated with His Glory"

Study Guide 9-"These Follow the Lamb Wherever He Goes"

Study Guide 10—"He Who is Holy, Let Him be Holy Still"

Study Guide 11—"You Are My Hiding Place"

Study Guide 12—"The Cleansing of Our Soul Temple"

# For further information, or your own set of Study Guides, contact:

Christa Negley, PhD 304-240-0795 cell christanegley@gmail.com

www.mountainrefugeministries.com