THE VOICE OF THE SON OF GOD

Intro: The bewildered and disappointed Simon Peter followed Jesus afar off after the sad episode at Gethsamane, his steps led him to the court of the Sanhedrin where his Lord was on trial. The sharp eyes of a serving maid detected something familiar in the face of this impetuous disciple whose attempts to save Jesus from being arrested had been frustrated. When asked, “Are you not one of them?” he replied, “I am not.” But the maid was not easily put aside in her suspicion. Finally she said, “They speech betrayeth thee” Mat. 26:73.

I. OUR SPEECH

A. Our speech betrays many things about us.
   1. Our dialect
   2. Our education
   3. Our intelligence
   4. Our confidence or lack of it.
   5. Our feelings about what we are saying.
      a. 1 Cor. 14:8 “For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?”
      b. 1 Kings 22:15-16 “So he came to the king. And the king said unto him, Micaiah, shall we go against Ramothgilead to battle, or shall we forbear? And he answered him, Go, and prosper: for the LORD shall deliver it into the hand of the king. 16And the king said unto him, How many times shall I adjure thee that thou tell me nothing but that which is true in the name of the LORD?”
      c. We should learn this in regard to our singing and teaching.

B. The voice man has its limitation.
   1. It is limited to this earth and the present.
   2. It can not penetrate the grave.

II. THE VOICE OF AUTHORITY.

A. Mat. 21:23 “And when he was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto him as he was teaching, and said, By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority?”

B. Moses predicted His authority.
   1. Deu. 18:15, 18-19 “The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken;...18I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. 19And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him.”
   2. Peter quotes this in Acts 3:22-23 “For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. 23And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.”

C. His is the voice of authority.
   1. Mat. 7:28-29 “And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: 29For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.”
   2. John 7:32, 45-46 “The Pharisees heard that the people murmured such things concerning him; and the Pharisees and the chief priests sent officers to take him....45Then came the officers to the chief priests and Pharisees; and they said unto them, Why have ye not brought him? 46The officers answered, Never man spake like this man.”
   3. At Jesus word:
      a. storms ceased; Mark 4:39 “And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.”
b. demons obeyed and acknowledged His power.

(1) Mat. 8:28-32 “And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way. 29And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time? 30And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding. 31So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine. 32And he said unto them, Go. And when they were come out, they went into the herd of swine: and, behold, the whole herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and perished in the waters.”

(2) Mat. 9:32-33 “As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil. 33And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: and the multitudes marvelled, saying, It was never so seen in Israel.”

(3) Mark 1:23-27, 34 “And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, 24Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God. 25And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. 26And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him. 27And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.... 34And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him.”

(4) Mark 3:11 “And unclean spirits, when they saw him, fell down before him, and cried, Thou art the Son of God.”

c. The dead heard.

(1) Jairus daughter; Mark 5:41-42 “And he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, Tālitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise. 42And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was of the age of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment.”

(2) son of the widow of Nain; Luke 7:14-15 “And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise. 15And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother.”

(3) Lazarus; John 11:43-44 “And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. 44And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.”

D. Jesus is the one with authority.

1. 1 Cor. 15:25 “For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.”

2. Eph. 1:20-23 “Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, 21Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: 22And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, 23Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.”

3. Col. 1:18 “And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.”

4. Heb. 1:1-3 “God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.”

5. Mat. 28:18 “And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.”

E. The failure to recognize Christ authority and his voice as the voice of authority is the basic cause for the “do as you please” or “do your own thing” in religion.
F. Christ voice, His word, will judge us.
   1. John 5:27 “And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.”
   2. John 12:48-50 “He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. 49For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. 50And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.”

III. CHRIST VOICE IS THE VOICE OF INSTRUCTION.
   A. The New Testament religion is a teaching and taught religion.
      1. Mat. 28:19-20 “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”
      2. John 6:45 “It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.”
      3. Acts 2:42 “And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”
   B. The apostles did not speak of themselves.
      1. 1 Cor. 14:37 “If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.”
      2. Gal. 1:11-12 “But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. 12For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.”
      3. 1 Pet. 4:11 “If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”
   C. Our’s is a puny voice; ill chosen words: but if I speak of instruction from Jesus, this is important.
      1. Christ voice is the only certain voice in an uncertain age.
      2. Christ never expresses a doubt on a subject.
         a. Before we shrug off what someone says we should ask, “Is that the voice of man or of Christ?”
   D. The Voice of Christ instructs in:
      1. Becoming a Christian; saved.
      2. In remaining saved.
      3. How to worship acceptably.
      4. How to live acceptably.
   E. The Lord is never voiceless except to the earless soul.

IV. CHRIST VOICE IS THE VOICE OF A FRIEND AND SHEPHERD.
   A. John 10:27 “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.”
      1. John 10:3-5 “To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. 4And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. 5And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.”
      2. John 10:9-11, 14 “I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. 10The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they
might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. 11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. 12 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.”

B. Christ by His teaching shows that we are as sheep; apt to stray, senseless to real danger, dependant on a leader.

1. Mat. 9:36 “But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.”
2. Isa. 53:6 “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.”
3. 1 Pet. 2:25 “For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.”

C. There is a difference in people by disposition and character between those who are His sheep and hear His voice as a shepherd and those who do not.

1. A question of consecration.
2. Luke 9:57-62 “And it came to pass, that, as they went in the way, a certain man said unto him, Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest. 58 And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head. 59 And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. 60 Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God. 61 And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house. 62 And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”

V. Christ Voice Is That of One Entreating Entrance.

A. Rev. 3:20 “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.”

B. Christ entreats people to hear His voice and to enter the fold of safety.

1. Gen. 7:1 “And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.”
2. Mat. 11:28-30 “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”
3. John 10:9 “I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.”
4. We make no apology for the church but still say to a perishing world, “Come under its protection.”

C. Blind Bartimaeus came to Jesus.

1. Mark 10:46-52 “And they came to Jericho: and as he went out of Jericho with his disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging. And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me. And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me. And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee. And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus. And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.”
2. Some rebuked him.
3. He heard the voice of the Son of God.
4. Some must be struck with tragedy before they hear.
5. This was the last time Jesus went that way.
6. We too are on the Jerico road, blind, helpless, and foolish; we as Bartimaeus need to come to Jesus.

Conclusion: The voice of the Son of God.
The voice of authority - Mark 16:16 “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”
The voice of instruction - John 14:6 “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”
The voice of a friend and Shepherd - Beatitudes
The voice of one entreating.

The final voice of Christ we will hear will be the voice of judgment. Mat. 25: “Come” or “Depart”.
Which will it be? Rev. 22:17 “And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”