LISTEN

Hidden Treasure 06 February 11, 2018

<u>Introduction</u>: The Bible, a collection of books which contain the words of God, is an avenue by which our Heavenly Father communicates with you and with me. Through the pages of this book, if we choose to listen, we are brought into a relationship with the God of the Universe, our Creator who gave life to all mankind. 'If we choose to listen.'

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4:4-6

I. Questions

- A. Why the division? Why so many churches?
- B. Is there unity, currently, between myself and God?
- C. Isn't this our desire?
- D. But how do we get there?

By faith we understand that **the universe was created by the word of God**, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible (Hebrews 11:3).

All Transformation in the Bible is Through Words Spoken

II. Principle #4 – Listen to God's Voice.

All the words in the Bible are <u>accurate</u> and <u>true</u>. But not all the words in the Bible carry the same <u>weight</u>.

¹ Then the people of Israel set out and camped in the plains of Moab... ² And Balak... saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites. ³ And Moab was in great dread of the people, because they were many. Moab was overcome with fear of the people of Israel. ⁴ **And Moab said to the elders of Midian**, "This horde will now lick up all that is around us, as the ox licks up the grass of the field." **So Balak...** ⁵ **sent messengers to Balaam... to call him, saying**, "Behold, a people has come out of Egypt. They cover the face of the earth, and they are dwelling opposite me. ⁶ Come now, curse this people for me, since they are too mighty for me. Perhaps I shall be able to defeat them and drive them from the land, for I know that he whom you bless is blessed, and he whom you curse is cursed" (Numbers 22:1–6).

Principle #4 – Listen to God's Voice.

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¹⁵ Once again Balak sent princes, more in number and more honorable than these. ¹⁶ And **they came to Balaam and said to him**, "Thus says Balak the son of Zippor: 'Let nothing hinder you from coming to me, ¹⁷ for I will surely do you great honor, and whatever you say

to me I will do. Come, curse this people for me." ¹⁸ But Balaam answered and said to the servants of Balak, "Though Balak were to give me his house full of silver and gold, I could not go beyond the command of the Lord my God to do less or more. ¹⁹ So you, too, please stay here tonight, that I may know what more the Lord will say to me." ²⁰ And God came to Balaam at night and said to him, "If the men have come to call you, rise, go with them; but only do what I tell you." (Numbers 22:15–20).

[the devil] said to him [Jesus], "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, **for it is** written, "'He will command his angels concerning you,' and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone'" (Matthew 4:6).

All the words of my mouth are righteous; there is nothing twisted or crooked in them. ⁹
They are all straight to him who understands, and right to those who find knowledge. ¹⁰
Take my instruction instead of silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold, ¹¹ for wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her (Proverbs 8:8–11).

III. One Body

⁴ There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all (Ephesians 4:4–6).

¹ Long ago, at many times and in many ways, **God spoke to our fathers by the prophets**, ² but in these last days **he has spoken to us by his Son**, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world (Hebrews 1:1–2).

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