Apply The Word

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Message Info

Title:
God Says

Speaker:
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Scriptures:
Mark 7:1–13, Various

Theme: Since God speaks, ask yourself, "To whom am I listening?"

Introduction: The world speaks loudly in our day, like a megaphone. And its sound is in opposition to the voice of God. It requires its own morality, not according to God's standards, but according to man's self-definition. But God has spoken, and God is speaking. We must ask ourselves who we are lending our ear to and evaluate how that is playing out in our lives.

God speaks to us in two ways:

1. God Speaks in Nature

- God is clearly perceived in nature, in part because of the necessity of a designer who created all things.
- The natural order of things is evidence that God speaks to us (Paul appeals to nature to speak about hair, and Job appeals to animals and plants as they declare God's glory).
- Every human has a God-consciousness, and every human is either acknowledging God or running away from him.

2. God Speaks in Scripture

- Human reason can exalt the human over God.
- While general revelation can give us the general outline, to know the Lord we must have specific–or special–revelation.
- All religions appeal to revelation, and especially a sacred text.
- The Bible is not silent on emotions, depression, anxiety, etc. Rather, people ignore the Scriptures in favor of other voices.
- The Scribes and Pharisees in Mark 7:1–13 appealed to another standard, but Jesus asserts that everything they need is in the Word of God.
- There are four parts to the doctrine of Scripture (S.C.A.N.):
    - **S**ufficiency of Scripture
    - **C**larity of Scripture
    - **A**uthority of Scripture
    - **N**ecessity of Scripture
    - This is how the Christian must view the Word of God.

Questions:

1. To whom are you listening? Which voices have prominence in your life?
2. How does God speak generally to humanity in nature?
3. How is God speaking specifically to your current situation in Scripture?

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