

Faith Listens

Mark 4:9 (NASB 2020) And He was saying, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

I. He who has ears!

****Revelation 2:7 (NASB95)** 'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

James 1:19 So, my dear brothers, you should know this: Every person should be more willing to listen than to speak.

Psalms 40:6 (AMP) Sacrifice and offering You do not desire, nor have You delight in them; You have given me the capacity to hear and obey [Your law, a more valuable service than] burnt offerings and sin offerings [which] You do not require.

Romans 10:17 (NASB 2020) So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

Word: g4487. ῥῆμα rhēma; from 4483; an utterance (individually, collectively or specially)

Ecclesiastes 5:1 Walk prudently when you go to the house of God; and draw near to hear rather than to give the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they do evil.

II. How are you hearing?

*****Mark 4:24-25 (NASB 2020)** And He was saying to them, "Take care what you listen to. By your standard of measure it will be measured to you; and more will be given you besides. For whoever has, to him more will be given; and whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him."

1. Careless hearer

Matthew and Luke are similar.

*****Matthew 13:19 (NASB 2020)** When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and **does not understand it**, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one sown with seed beside the road.

Matthew 13:44 (NASB 2020) "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and sells everything that he has and buys that field.

A lack of understanding does not keep one from appreciation or thankfulness!

James 1:5 (NKJV) If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

Proverbs 4:5 (NKJV) Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth.

Matthew 25:28-29 (NASB 2020) Therefore: take the talent away from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.' "For to everyone who has, more shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away.

Mark 4:12 (NASB 2020) so that WHILE SEEING THEY MAY SEE, AND NOT PERCEIVE, AND WHILE HEARING, THEY MAY HEAR, AND NOT UNDERSTAND, OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT RETURN AND IT WOULD BE FORGIVEN THEM."

*****Mark 4:22 (NASB 2020)** For nothing is hidden, except to be revealed; nor has anything been secret, but that it would come to light.

1 Corinthians 2:10 (NKJV) But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

2. Shallow hearer

Mark 4:16-17 (NASB 2020) **And in a similar way** these are the ones sown with seed on the rocky places, who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy; and yet they have no firm root in themselves, but are only temporary; then, **when affliction or persecution occurs because of the word, immediately they fall away.**

2 Timothy 3:12 (NASB 2020) Indeed, all who want to live in a godly way in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

Proverbs 19:3 (NLT) People ruin their lives by their own foolishness and then are angry at the Lord.

3. Selfish hearer

Mark 4:18-19 (NASB 2020) And others are the ones sown with seed among the thorns; these are the ones who have heard the word, but **the worries of the world, and the deceitfulness of wealth, and the desires for other things enter and choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.**

Jeremiah 7:24 (NASB 2020) Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but walked by their own advice and in the stubbornness of their evil hearts, and they went backward and not forward.

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NASB 2020) Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.

*****Matthew 6:31-33 (NKJV)** "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'"

III. The Blessing of Hearing!

Mark 4:20 (NASB 2020) And those are the ones sown with seed on the good soil; and they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty, sixty, and a hundred times as much."

Luke 11:28 (NASB95) But He said, "On the contrary, blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it."

Blessed: g3107. μακάριος makarios; supremely blest; fortunate, well off:

Proverbs 8:32-36 "Now therefore, listen to me, my children, for blessed are those who keep my ways.

Proverbs 15:31-33 The ear that hears the reproof of life will abide among the wise.

Revelation 2:7 (NKJV) "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

Revelation 2:17 (NKJV) "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it."

Revelation 3:21 (NKJV) 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.