



### When God Speaks John 12:27-32

#### God speaks, but His voice must be recognized. Verses 27-28:

##### Text Message:

- The Gospel of John is the only gospel without a Gethsemane account, and this is the closest this gospel comes to one.
- Jesus is troubled and answered with a “voice” from heaven.
- The word voice is the Greek (φωνη, *phone*) and could be translated as “voice or sound.” It comes from a root word that means “to bring light (i.e. shed light on), become evident, become clear, to appear to the mind.”
- All this to say, that while an audible voice from heaven was heard, the word is not limited to an audible voice.
- *Isn't it interesting that the crowd heard thunder?*
- Don't look to the crowd to hear the voice of God!
- The same is true today: something happens, and one person interprets it as God's voice, another person to something else!
- This simply means we must be intentional to see/hear/ experience the voice of God!
- We could liken this to tuning into a radio station.
- Notice what hearing God's voice was in response to:  
28 “Father, glorify Your Name.” **Then** a voice came from heaven...”  
John 12:28, emphasis mine

#### God speaks and He will confirm what is spoken.

30 Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine.”

##### Text Message:

- Let's imagine ourselves in the crowd that day...  
*I just heard thunder... Did you hear thunder?  
Thunder? I get it, but it sounded like a voice to me!  
A voice? Was it someone in the crowd here?  
No dude, like a voice form above, like an angel!  
It was probably just thunder. Let's not get caught in a storm!*
- Jesus confirmed the voice from heaven!
- Without Jesus confirming the voice of God, everyone else that day would have been left to their own opinion or the opinions of others.
- When you feel God has spoken, look for confirmation of it.
- Remember, a word from God will never contradict the written Word of God (the Bible) or the Living Word of God (Jesus)!
- God may confirm His voice through others (the Church), the Bible, devotional reading, prayer, and circumstances.

#### God speaks, not only for our comfort but for His glory and kingdom.

##### Text Message:

- The voice of God in verse 28 is in the context of Jesus being troubled and no doubt this voice strengthened Jesus as He anticipated dying on the cross in less than a week.
- But the broader context is that of the glory of God, the crucifixion of Jesus and the meaning of it, and Jesus drawing all people to Himself.
- In other words, it has the kingdom in mind!
- Get this: Even though the voice of God here was in response to Jesus' prayer and strengthened Him to endure the cross less than a week later, Jesus also states that the voice was for the benefit of others.
- When we experience the voice of God, it is for our good but also for His glory! Our comfort but also for His kingdom!
- Which means, like Jesus, we look for someone to tell and give glory to God!