

TAKE HEED THEREFORE HOW & WHAT YE HEAR

By Keith Greer

“Therefore take heed how you hear. For whoever has, to him more will be given; and whoever does not have, even what he seems to have will be taken from him.” {Luke 8:18} “And with many such parables He spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it. But without a parable He did not speak to them. And when they were alone, He explained all things to His disciples.” {Mark 4:33,34} Yes, one must be very careful HOW they hear and WHAT they hear. One needs to hear:

Attentively. *“Now all the people gathered together as one man in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate; and they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded Israel. So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly of men and women and all who could hear with understanding on the first day of the seventh month. Then he read from it in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate from morning until midday, before the men and women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.” {Nehemiah 8:1-3} First and foremost God’s children need to be ATTENTIVE. Listen carefully, prayerfully so they can examine the things said. Failure to tune our attention to the words that are being communicated could cause one to be led astray. A lack of attentiveness also displayed a lack of respect for the words of God.*

Reverently. *“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.” {Hebrews 12:28} Do you have deep respect for the words of God? Do we understand this is His last words revealed to mankind—His last will and testament? (1 Corinthians 2:9-13) Do we have the same attitude that the first Gentile convert Cornelius had? “So I sent to you immediately, and you have done well to come. Now therefore, we are all present before God, to hear all the things commanded you by God.” {Acts 10:33} This is God communicating His will to us—we need to be very reverent!*

Honestly. *“For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.” {Matthew 13:15} Some people are not honest when they hear the word of God. Why? Many times it’s because it disagrees with their pre-conceived ideas. Also, it may disagree with the things they were previously taught and accepted as truth. What does one do when presented with the truth and it goes against what they formerly practiced? Accept it or become dishonest!*

Obediently. *“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.” {Matthew 7:24-27} What purpose does it serve to hear the word of God, know that it’s the truth, know what it calls upon you to do and then make no effort to obey it in your life? Foolish indeed, such a hearer has wasted his time!*

Every person in the world determines what they will listen to concerning religious and spiritual matters. False teachers can sound very convincing about their doctrines. Dear reader, how is your hearing? Are we being attentive, reverent, honest, and obedient to the things we've heard in the past? Why not start today to do better! **