

The Voice of God! How Can We Be Sure?

God does not speak to us verbally.

Job 32:8 [NIV] *“But it is the **spirit in a man**, the breath of the Almighty, that gives him understanding.”*

There is in every human a spiritual dimension to our being. This is the channel through which God speaks to us.

1 Corinthians 2:11-14 [NIV] *“For who among men knows the **thoughts of a man** except the **man’s spirit within him**? In the same way no-one knows the **thoughts of God** except the **Spirit of God**. We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.”*

It is the Holy Spirit, Who is God, speaking to us through this spirit that God has given to each human being.

This is how God speaks to us, through thoughts, which are spiritual, **not** verbal words which are physical, the result of vibrating air particles.

God tends to speak quietly and gently.

1 Kings 19:11-12 [NIV] *“The LORD said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper.”*

God spoke to Elijah in a whisper.

When a voice within me drives and demands like a pushy, used car salesman, it is **not** God speaking.

God seldom urges sudden action without giving us time to reason through the issues.

God tends to speak while we are consciously seeking Him.

1 Samuel 3:3 [NIV] *“The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and **Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD**, where the ark of God was.”*

Samuel was in the presence of God when he heard God’s voice.

Psalms 46:10 [NIV] *“Be still, and know that I am God;”*

God is unlikely to speak to us during the noise and business of our work day.

We have to provide God with a time of quietness away from and distractions of human activity for Him to speak to us through our thoughts.

A time set aside for praise and prayer.

God always speaks the truth.

Titus 1:2 [NIV] *“a faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life, which **God, who does not lie**, promised before the beginning of time,”*

God does not lie, He is faithful to His Word.

John 17:17 [NIV] *“Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.”*

All of God’s Word is truth.

If what we are hearing contradicts the written Word of God, the **“Handbook For Life”**, it is **not** God speaking.

Such thoughts have been generated by our own mind or by Satan.

What God says is never confusing.

1 Corinthians 14:33 [King James] *“For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.”*

When God speaks it is always specific and clear.

John 8:43-44 [NIV] *“Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. You belong to your father, **the devil**, and you want to carry out your father’s desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he **is a liar and the father of lies**.”*

Satan is the author of lies and the confusion that they bring with them.

Revelation 12:9 [King James] *“And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and **Satan, which deceiveth the whole world**: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”*

Satan is one who leads us astray by deception.

Jeremiah 17:9 [Amplified Bible] *“The heart is deceitful above all things, and it is exceedingly perverse and corrupt...”*

It could be our own bias thinking that has generated the thoughts we think is God speaking.

No one point listed above is sufficient in itself to prove or disprove the voice of God. But these principles taken all together can help us discern more accurately if the thoughts we are receiving are the voice of God.