

Spiritual blindness & deafness Pt 4 – the remedy is scripture

This is our fourth study, in our previous teaching we established two points – 1) Physical deafness effects individuals that cannot hear physically and (2) Spiritual deafness is determined when I) we have ears but do not hear, ii) have uncircumcised ears and iii) have ears that are dull of hearing. In this study we establish two points – 1) Jesus is the remedy for physical deafness, and (2) the word of God is the remedy for spiritual deafness.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

1. Jesus opened the ears of those who were physically deaf.

“And were beyond measure astonished, saying, He hath done all things well: he maketh both the deaf to hear...” (Mk.7: 37). See also Lk.7: 22, Matt.11: 5

2. The word of God is the remedy for spiritual deafness.

a) Faith comes by hearing,

“So then faith cometh by hearing” (Rom 10:17).

b) hearing by the word of God (Holy scripture)

“and hearing by the word of God.” (Rom.10: 17).

In the context of this passage what is the word of God?

Answer – “**the word of faith**, which we preach: That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved” (Rom.10: 8 & 9).

Illustration to help apply our teaching to our life.

When we preach the gospel of Christ-crucified that has the power of God to save a man you see different responses from those that pass by, which include –

- * Hostility or outward rejection of the message where they shake their head,
- * a seed planted, or others stop and receive the good news message and believe.

Question to think about.

Given that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God, why is it that not all that hear the word have faith, as was the example of Israel – Heb.4: 2?

Our answer from the scriptures.

Isaiah gives us a clue – “Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed” (Is.6: 10).

As does the Lord Jesus – “For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing...lest at any time they should...hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted” (Matt.13: 15).

As does Paul – “But as it is written, To whom he was not spoken of, they shall see: and they that have not heard shall understand” (Rom.15: 21).

From these three examples we see that for a person to be cured from spiritual deafness – they hear God's word – they understand it with their heart, hence they believe in their heart and so the word of God is then mixed with faith.

Whereas those that maintain their spiritual deafness – hear God's word, but understand not with their heart due to the hardness of their heart (Rom.2: 5), and so believe not. Today we believe in our heart the gospel of Christ unto righteousness (Rom.10: 10), and exhibit “the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all” (Rom.4: 16). The remedy for spiritual deafness is – hearing the word of God mixed with faith.