




GOD'S WORD
IS
PERSONAL

A scenic landscape at sunset. The sky is filled with vibrant orange and yellow clouds, with the sun low on the horizon. In the foreground, there are dark silhouettes of trees and a paved path leading towards the horizon. The overall mood is peaceful and inspirational.

GARY HARGRAVE





God Is Speaking to You

When God's Word comes to you, it is very personal. Obviously, one big possibility where God can speak to you is through the Scriptures. The Bible can be a book that you read, or it can become the source of a personal Word from God into your life. God can also move through human vessels. So you can get a confirmed Word from God through certain trusted relationships where a person speaks a Word from God into your life. And the truth is that a lot of Words from God come that way.

In 1 Thessalonians 2:13, Paul said, "We also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe." When Paul spoke to the Thessalonians, he was not reading to them from the New Testament because it did not exist yet. As their apostle, Paul was speaking to them a Word from God and things happened in their lives because of that Word. The same thing happened with Moses. When Moses spoke to Israel, he spoke a Word from God. So the first step is that you need a revelation of the source of a Word from God in your life. That source can be the Scriptures; it can be a relationship where there is confirmation, or it can be both. But there must be a spirit of revelation so that when it comes to you, you know you have a Word from God—and it is not a generalized Word from God; it is a Word from God to you (Ephesians 1:17).

Let me give you an example of a Word from God in the Scriptures: "Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:1). This verse is not a generalized concept that does not impact you. This verse is a Word from God to you personally. Are you a believer in Yeshua (Jesus) as your personal Savior? Then you qualify for this verse and it applies to you. So if you have thoughts of condemnation, ask yourself, "Where in the world are these thoughts coming from? The Word of God told me, 'There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ.' God said there is no such thing as condemnation. So I must stop

and remind myself, 'If I have thoughts or feelings of condemnation, then they are diametrically opposed to what God just told me by His Word—and that is a personal Word to me.'

I am talking about my daily life when I wake up in the morning and my brain starts taking me into condemnation rather than thinking about myself according to the Word of God: who and what He said I am by virtue of Christ's sacrifice and resurrection. We should get really upset about our wrong attitudes, but we tend to simply accept, "Oh well, I have those kinds of thoughts all the time. This is just normal for me." Wait! God's Word says there is no such thing as condemnation for those who are in Christ, and if I am living in condemnation then that should be a problem to me. I need to absolutely say, "For me in my life, in my world, in my surroundings, there does not exist such a thing as condemnation! And that is how I determine to think and to walk."



Beware of the Consequences

Now let us take this a step further. Christians easily slip into this thinking that there are no consequences for accepting condemnation: "I do not have to stop myself from thinking that way because nothing bad seems to happen to me as a result." It is amazing how believers can allow themselves to think absolutely contrary to the Word of God and have no concept that there would be any consequence or price to pay for that. But I think there is. If everyday things like your health and the blessings of God are not going the way they should, then ask yourself honestly, "Are those problems literally a consequence of the fact that I freely allow myself to think or say or do that which is contrary to what God is directly telling me to think or say or do?"

I want to use another illustration from the Hebrew Scriptures about consequences. When Israel came out of Egypt, received the Law, walked to the Jordan River, and was instructed to cross over into the Promised Land, they did not do it (Numbers 13:25–33). When the ten spies gave a

bad report about the land, Joshua and Caleb tore their clothes and said,

“The land which we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. If the LORD is pleased with us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us—a land which flows with milk and honey. Only do not rebel against the LORD; and do not fear the people of the land, for they will be our prey. Their protection has been removed from them, and the LORD is with us; do not fear them.”

NUMBERS 14:7–9

God very simply came and told His people, “Do not fear those guys out there in the land. Their immunity is already down. I’ve already given you the land. They’re already in your hand. They’re already defeated.” (Now keep relating this story to Romans 8:1 in your life because God has already spoken to you a verse that is to be your reality.) God brought the Israelites to a moment in time. He even brought them to a geographical place and gave them a Word from God. He told them very simply to do something, and they very simply did not do it. And when they did not do it, there were consequences. They even tried to repent and turn around the next day and go take the land, but God would not let them do it.

The Israelites refused to enter in at a time of destiny when God was moving. Is there any possibility that you and I could also live in a time that is just as destined as those moments were? Could this potentially be one of those historical moments like the Scripture says in “the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth” (Ephesians 1:10)? Could this be one of those moments in the fullness of time where something is getting ready to happen? I believe that we live in a moment of destiny in which the Kingdom of God is manifesting in His people first. Yeshua is coming “to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed” (2 Thessalonians 1:10). The manifestation of God’s Kingdom is coming in a people who will be His instruments to bring forth His will in the earth in a moment of destiny.





It Will Look Absolutely Impossible!

There are windows of time; there are moments of destiny that must fulfill the Word of God or God Himself will not allow it to happen. Those destinies must be fulfilled by a Word from God, not by our actions. If we refuse God's Word in our moment of destiny, we cannot decide later, "Hey, I'm going to go do this." We already ruined it. You may ask, "Why didn't God just let the Israelites go in the next day?" It was too late. They were to go in knowing that they were incapable in their own strength of going in, knowing that the giants were in the land. They had to go in on one basis: "God told me to do this. How is it going to work? I can't figure that out because my mind and reasoning are telling me, 'This is absolutely impossible. These guys are going to chew us up and spit us out. We are grasshoppers in their sight and in our own sight. Even God told me these nations are greater and mightier than I am.'" But God said, "Go do it." And if they had done it at that moment, they would have walked across the Jordan River and gone into that land knowing it was impossible. Their very obedience would have been the result of their belief in what God had said, who He is, and what He can do. That became the linchpin. And that is going to be the linchpin in our generation: what happens, happens because we get a Word from God and we relate to it in such a way that God fulfills it. Even if it looks like we are doing the fulfilling, we will know the difference even if no one else does.

In our Christian teaching, we can talk about the Israelites and how they did not obey God: "God told them to go take the land, and they wouldn't take it. How foolish can they be?" But remember, God did not come down and speak to them directly. Instead, God spoke through the mouth of Moses. All the more reason not to trust it, they thought. But their job was to be obedient to that Word. And because they could not do it, we look at them and criticize them freely. For thousands of years now Christianity has criticized Judaism about being legalistic and

not hearing or being obedient. But then in Christianity we hear God speak to us in Romans 8:1, “Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,” and we think it is fine for us to walk through our day and feel condemnation. We see no reason why we should have to follow that Word or obey it or that there would be any consequences in our lives because we are not obeying that Word. I think we are living in the consequences now, and we are trying to get out of the consequences that we have built up.



The Word of God Fulfills Itself

This brings us to the next point. Our determination is born from the fact that the Word of God is what makes things happen. The Word of God fulfills itself. If you plant a seed in soil, the soil does not determine what happens. The soil is simply an atmosphere. So if you put a tomato seed in the ground, the soil does not produce a papaya. It is all about the seed waiting for an atmosphere so that it can grow. And we know that some seeds can literally sit for hundreds of years waiting for the right atmosphere. Likewise, this Word from God called the Bible is the imperishable seed, that is, the living and enduring Word of God, and it has been waiting now for many thousands of years for an atmosphere (1 Peter 1:23). Once the seed of the Word is planted, the soil will allow that seed to do what it is going to do. The Word of God is set to create you; it grows in you into exactly what it pleases to become. God makes that work. It will never be because of us. We will recognize, “Hey, I just happened to be a moist lump of dirt and this Word grew in me.”

Further, God will only move when He gets all the credit. So you may ask, “How do I get into this new day and make things happen?” It is your relationship with the Father; He speaks a Word into your life and you allow that Word to become itself in you. It is that simple. It is also

important how we hear a Word from God and take it into our hearts. Listen, listen, listen! We do not want to be dull of hearing.

“Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good,
And delight yourself in abundance.
Incline your ear and come to Me.
Listen, that you may live;
And I will make an everlasting covenant with you,
According to the faithful mercies shown to David.”

ISAIAH 55:2-3

In this moment of destiny God is making a covenant with those who are willing to hear what He is saying, with those who respond by saying, “Yes! That must be what happens according to the faithful mercies shown to David.” When Israel was standing at the Jordan River ready to cross into the land, their thoughts were not God’s thoughts. God said, “These people before you are defeated.” And the people responded, “Well, they’re breathing pretty heavily, and they still look really tall to me.” Yet if we call upon the Lord while He is near, He will have compassion on us, “and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. For My thoughts are not your thoughts” (Isaiah 55:7-8). We are looking for the renewing of our minds so that we can be transformed (Romans 12:2). But what are we transformed into? We are transformed into the Word that God is speaking.



God's Word Is Powerful

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
And do not return there without watering the earth

And making it bear and sprout,
And furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater;
So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth;
It will not return to Me empty,
Without accomplishing what I desire,
And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.”

ISAIAH 55:10–11

It is impossible for the Word of God to return to Him void without accomplishing what He said it was going to accomplish. So now I can finally get ahold of Romans 8:1 that there is no condemnation to those who are in Christ because it is a Word from God. And it is impossible for that Word of God to return to Him void without accomplishing what He said it was going to accomplish—specifically what He said it is going to accomplish in me—that there is no condemnation. Therefore, there is now no condemnation! When you look across your Jordan River, you may still see giants. There is no problem with that; the issue is how you relate to those giants. Who is more powerful, God in His Word or the giants? If God said the giants are dead, then they are dead. Maybe they will not fall over dead until you walk across the river. Maybe you will walk right up to them face to face, and they still do not go down. Then what do you do? Like David you take your little slingshot and start swinging it around your head. The giants may still not be running, but the whole time in your mind they are dead.



Goliath Comes Down by the Word of God

You do not win spiritual warfare when you get into a wrestling match with satan. If you did not win the match before you got there, you would have already lost it. You had to win it in your heart

regarding the Word of God. If your mind is in a wrestling match, then you will not win any battles against condemnation. You must predetermine that by virtue of a Word from God there is no such thing as condemnation. Now you can stand face to face with condemnation and say, “There is no such thing as you. By a Word from God, you no longer exist for me.” But maybe like David you are sitting there swinging your little slingshot and the giant still does not run away. All right, then you have to actually release the rock and by God the giant comes down (1 Samuel 17:43–51). The Word, the rock, hits him right in the forehead and Goliath goes down. It is by the Word that it happens.

God has predestined us to be His sons in this generation. We will be those sons because His Word will make us be that by His power, by His anointing, and by His authority that is watching over His Word. It will be with the same force that God was able to reach down into the abyss and bring His Son Yeshua up from the dead (Ephesians 1:19–20). That same force is working in me to make me who He said I am—not because of me, but because of that Word. This is true for every one of us. We have a Word from God. God has spoken a Word to us, and He has chosen us. It will look impossible, but it is going to happen because God said it. He spoke a Word and the guarantee is that His Word will not return to Him without doing what He said it would do. That is all I need. You and I will become what we are to become by virtue of a Word from God and that Word will fulfill itself.

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Contact us by sending an email to silvana@hargraveministries.org

All Scripture references are from the New American Standard Bible 1995 (NASB1995).

ABOUT GARY HARGRAVE



GARY HARGRAVE has a passion for leading people into spiritual maturity. Gary effectively ministers the life-changing truth of God's Word through Bible teaching and prophetic revelation that emphasizes the Lordship of Christ.

Gary embraces the teachings and insights of the Hebrew Scriptures as the essential foundation of God's Kingdom and the roots of Christian faith.

By cultivating spiritual maturity in Christians, Gary is deeply committed to teaching and inspiring unity in the Body of Christ and between Christians and the Jewish people.

Throughout decades of ministry, Gary has worked closely with leaders in the Jewish, Catholic, and Protestant communities to build relationships based on commonality and understanding. He frequently leads study tours to Israel in the land of the Bible.

Gary is the host of a weekly podcast entitled *Growing In God* and is the founder of Shiloh University, an accredited online Bible college and seminary.

Gary and his family reside in Hawaii.

For other insightful resources by Gary Hargrave, including podcasts, books, articles, videos, and other educational materials, please visit: www.HargraveMinistries.org.

ABOUT HARGRAVE MINISTRIES

The calling of the Lord upon this ministry is to lead people into spiritual maturity by revealing biblical truth. **Our passion is to see the Kingdom of God manifest on earth** as the Body of Christ grows in unity, power, and love.

Everything we do flows from the revelation of the Jewish foundations of our Christian faith. It is our desire and privilege to bless the land and people of Israel. Our Israel outreach includes our ability to:

- **Feed the poor and break the cycle of poverty in Israel**
- **Support the orphans and widows of fallen Israeli soldiers**
- Provide physical and emotional care to **child victims of terrorism**
- **Build bridges between Christians and Jews with biblical study and research**
- Support archaeology and preservation of the **biblical City of David**
- Provide 24/7 **care for Holocaust survivors**
- **Help persecuted Jews around the world return to Israel and start new lives**
- Plant trees to **reforest Israel** and help create **"The Gospel Trail"** between Nazareth and Capernaum

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