

Sabbath School Lesson #1 – The Creator Speaks – 26 September-2 October 2026

Christ would have us listen when God speaks. God says, “Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth” (Psalms 46:10). God spoke by the prophets; He speaks by His Son. We read: “God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom He hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds” (Hebrews 1:1-2). In time past, God spoke by the prophets; in these last days, God has spoken to us by His Son. In many ways and manners has God spoken; but whether in times past, or in these last days; whether by the prophets, or by His Son, it was God who spoke. The voice of God is as clear in the prophets as in the sermon on the mount. It is but one voice. “This is the law and the prophets” (Matthew 7:12), the word spoken by the prophets, is the same as that spoken by Christ – “in these last days” God has spoken by His Son. We are now in the last days, let us listen to Him. “See that ye refuse not Him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from Him that speaketh from heaven” (Hebrews 12:15).

Sunday: Communication in Eden – Read Genesis 3:8; what does this tell us about God’s original plan of communication not only in Eden but also throughout in eternity? Ellen White tells us this: “When Adam came from the Creator’s hand, he bore, in his physical, mental, and spiritual nature, a likeness to his Maker. “God created man in His own image” (Genesis 1:27), and it was His purpose that the longer man lived the more fully he should reveal this image — the more fully reflect the glory of the Creator. All his faculties were capable of development; their capacity and vigor were continually to increase. Vast was the scope offered for their exercise, glorious the field opened to their research. The mysteries of the visible universe — the “wondrous works of Him which is perfect in knowledge” (Job 37:16) — invited man’s study. Face-to-face, heart-to-heart communion with his Maker was his high privilege. Had he remained loyal to God, all this would have been his forever. Throughout eternal ages he would have continued to gain new treasures of knowledge, to discover fresh springs of happiness, and to obtain clearer and yet clearer conceptions of the wisdom, the power, and the love of God. More and more fully would he have fulfilled the object of his creation, more and more fully have reflected the Creator’s glory” {Ed 15.1}.

Monday: Hiding From God – Read Genesis 3:1-8; Why did Adam and Eve attempt to hide from their Creator after they disobeyed Him and why many do so today? Ellen White tells us this: “After Adam and Eve had sinned, they became conscious that their garments of purity and brightness, the covering given them by God, had fallen away from them. They saw that they were naked, and, ashamed to respond to God’s call, they hid themselves among the trees of the garden. “And God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded that thou shouldest not eat?” [Genesis 3:9-11.]” {11LtMs, Lt 106, 1896, par. 4}. “When human agents yield to temptation, and give themselves up to obey the will of Satan, they are indeed naked. Deprived of the divine covering of light and innocence, they are afraid to meet their God. God speaks to us in His Word, saying, “I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.” [Revelation 3:18.]” {11LtMs, Lt 106, 1896, par. 5}.

Tuesday: God Seeks Humanity – Read Genesis 3:9-10; what lessons do we learn here in the Lord taking the initiative to seek man? The Lord took the initiative in salvation and continues to take the initiative. He is the good Shepherd who is seeking His lost sheep even though they have not sought Him. He is constantly drawing all men to repentance. His love is unlike man’s love, for His love is changeless – not based on conditions – seeking good for His enemies. The Lord does not wait for sinners to desire pardon, before He makes an effort to save them, but he “commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). So, the Lord says through the prophet Isaiah: “I am sought of them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not; I said, Behold me,

behold me, unto a nation that was not called by my name. I have spread out my hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which walketh in a way that was not good, after their own thoughts" (Isaiah 65:1-2). At least two lessons should be learned from this. One is a lesson of hope and courage, because of the Lord's intense longing for the salvation of sinners. The second is we should also learn a lesson of forgiveness, for Paul exhorts us to forgive one another even as God hath for Christ's sake forgiven us (Ephesians 4:32). That is, willingly, gladly, and without reserve. More than this we are to be willing to forgive, to long to forgive, before the one who has offended makes any sign of repentance or of wishing to be forgiven, – from the very moment that the offense is committed. That utterly excludes all malice or hard feelings from our hearts. We have no right to entertain such feelings for a moment.

Wednesday: Expelled From the Garden – Sin has changed humanity in many ways (see Genesis 3:14-24); but why was man expelled from the paradise of Eden home? Paradise was once the home of man. It is the place in which God intended man to live, free from care and pain and sorrow, and beyond the reach of death. It is not the Creator's fault that man is not living there now. But when man became a sinner, it became necessary that he should be excluded from paradise, "lest he should put forth his hand to the tree of life, and eat and live forever" (Genesis 3:22). An immortal sinner would be an eternal stain upon God's universe. Nevertheless He, in His love and mercy, has not left man to dwell by himself in the dreary abode of sin. Man has been exiled from his Eden home, but God has gone with him into the place of exile. Because man could not stay in the place of holiness, God consented to dwell in the place of sin, that men might not be separated from Him. So, we read that He is "not far from every one of us, for in Him we live, and move, and have our being" (Acts 17:27-28). While He dwells thus in the midst of sinners, who know Him not, He has provided a special dwelling place for those who love and obey Him. We read, "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High, shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty" (Psalm 91:1). Through Isaiah also God has said: "I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit" (Isaiah 57:15).

Thursday: God's Spokespeople – The Lesson writer says: "After Jesus' ascension to heaven, the Holy Spirit has continued to guide us " 'into all the truth' " and to speak to us of " 'what is yet to come' " (John 16:13, NIV)." This is true, but a subtle statement suggesting, as many Adventists think, that after Christ returned to heaven, it is the Holy Spirit as another entity that speak to us. It is by the Holy Spirit that the real presence of Christ is manifested to those and in those that are His. For "if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His" (Romans 8:9). The Spirit, the presence of Christ, in you, is not another Being or entity. The Holy Spirit that abides in us is Christ Himself, for His Spirit is His very life. Christ is Omnipresent, that is, Christ is the Holy Spirit in us. "And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening Spirit" (1 Corinthians 15:45). In other words, "the last Adam [Jesus Christ] was made [after His resurrection] a quickening Spirit." "And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father" (Galatians 4:6). The Spirit of the Son of God is His own omnipresence. "Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty" (2 Corinthians 3:17). Christ ministers physically in heaven, and ministers spiritually in us. "It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us" (Romans 8:34). The presence of Christ Himself, not another, is with us. "While Jesus ministers in the sanctuary above, He is still by His Spirit the minister of the church on earth. He is withdrawn from the eye of sense, but His parting promise is fulfilled, 'Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.' Matthew 28:20. While He delegates His power to inferior ministers, His energizing presence is still with His church" {DA 166.2}. "The Lord is soon to come. We want that complete and perfect understanding which the Lord alone can give. It is not safe to catch the spirit from another. We want the Holy Spirit, which is Jesus Christ. If we commune with God, we shall have strength and grace and efficiency" – EG White {9LtMs, Lt 66, 1894, par. 18}.