

## THE FIRST WORDS GIVEN BY GOD

Dan Jenkins

What were the first words ever literally given by God that are part of the Bible? You might immediately answer, "The first words of the Bible are 'In the beginning...,'" but you would be wrong. Before Moses ever wrote Genesis, our God gave the first written words at Mount Sinai. These words were spoken by God and even written by the hand of God on tablets of stone. There are some amazing words used to describe how all this happened.

When Israel arrived at the holy mountain, the thunderous voice of God gave the Ten Commandments. The Jews were terrified and begged Moses to let God speak to him, and then Moses could tell them what God said. The scene was so ominous that even Moses was filled with fear, even to the point of trembling, when he ascended to the top of Mount Sinai to get the tables of stone written by the hand of God (**Heb. 12:21**). There are some eternal truths we need to learn as we read what was happening.

Look at the details carefully and notice the words I have emphasized by using capitalization. The Jews said, "You go near and hear ALL that the Lord our God may say, and tell us ALL that the Lord our God says to you" (**Deut. 5:27**). What an amazing picture of the inspiration and trustworthiness of the Bible. The prophet of God went into the presence of God and received ALL that God said. He then brought it to the people and gave them everything that God said.

Now look at the concluding words spoken by Israel. "Tell us ALL that the Lord our God says to you, and we will hear and do it." God heard them speak these very words and said to Moses, "They are right in ALL that they have spoken." When we study the Bible today, we must have the same attitude. It is one that longs to hear everything God says and promises to listen and do it. The Lord Himself said that this is the right thing to do!

However, there is more than just understanding the words of God given by His prophets. There is more than just knowing these words. God heard their words and then looked at their hearts. "Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and ALWAYS keep ALL My commandments." The Jews heard the voice of God speak about graven images. They were to receive a written copy of those words. Even God praised them for saying they would do all that He said, but their hearts were not part of their words.

What a great lesson for us to learn. We must respect the fact that the Bible is from God, but we must engrave ALL these heavenly truths in our hearts. God said this is right! It is always right to do right.



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840

(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

March 17, 2024

**All the Churches of Christ greet you.**

Romans 16:16

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### WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m. on Zoom

**Today's Sermon: God Is – Part Two.**

**Scripture Reading: Psalm 118:26-29**

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

Notes for Sunday morning and Wednesday evening classes are available on the website.

**[valleycitieschurchofchrist.org](http://valleycitieschurchofchrist.org)**

Find us on Facebook:

**[www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc](https://www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc)**

**Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- ❖ **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** 6:30pm March 20, on Zoom, 1 Thessalonians.
- ❖ **Ladies' Class** –Tuesday, March 19. The prophet Zechariah.
- ❖ **Community Coffee House-** Saturday, April 20, 1-3pm.
- ❖ **Next Potluck & Bring-a-Friend Sunday** – April 21.
- ❖ **Next 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing-** March 24 at Horseheads, 4:30pm.
- ❖ **Valley Cities Ladies' Prayer Brunch-** My Identity in Jesus -April 6, 10am-1pm
- ❖ **Soul Winners Workshop** at Horseheads. April 13, 9am-3pm.



Please join us for our **fellowship potluck meal** after services this morning.

- **Steve and Amy** are traveling this weekend celebrating their wedding anniversary and Amy's birthday.
- **The brethren at Whitehall church in Pittsburg** invite us to an appreciation dinner for those who have been involved with the MAGI boxes. Representatives of Healing Hands International will be there. April 27 at 5pm. Please let us know if you are interested so we can help them know how much food to prepare.

## PRAYERS

- **Pray for the success of our outreach effort with the coffee house and open mic program for the community.**
- **Pray for success of our preacher search.**
- **Pray for impact from our MAGI boxes as we prepare to fill 80 more for 2024.**
- **Pray for the efforts of the ladies as they prepare for the prayer brunch on April 6<sup>th</sup>.**

### Continue to pray for these people:

- **Shirley Stroll-** Todds friend's mother, terminal cancer.
- **Dawn Cowles-** chemo treatments following breast cancer surgery.
- **Bonnie's brother Greg** upcoming hernia surgery
- **Marguerite** (Ruthie's friend)- in Beechtree rehab center recovering from a broken hip and injured neck.
  - **Pat Guthrie-**he has lung cancer, stage 4, and his wife Robin.
  - **Paulette-** Pain coming from her spine and affecting her hip and leg. Also, she has a lot of work-related stress.
- **Mike Walls,** frontal lobe dementia. Pray also for Carrie who has left the marriage. Mike's health care is now being overseen by his sister.
  - **Sue Barry-** stage 4 breast cancer. (currently in remission)
  - **Steve's brother Brian-** prostate cancer
  - **Steve's sister Deb-** leukemia, and breast cancer
  - **Monique (Miki's friend)-** managing back pain meds.
  - **Stephen Salada** (Miki's friend Georgia's grandson)- recovering from Influenza A and inflamed lung.
  - **Jon Russell-** needs foot surgery because of diabetes but has a heart condition that needs to be addressed first.

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at [barncat7237@gmail.com](mailto:barncat7237@gmail.com) or text or call (607) 261-0911.