

Title: God's Voice Thunders from Heaven

Brandy Helton, Garden Gathering, 3/10/24

We are glorifying the voice of the Lord.

Jeremiah 9:23-24 NKJV

We would do well to memorize this passage and let the Lord write it on our own hearts. As we see the Lord in this passage in Jeremiah, you can see that all glory goes to the Father. All glory goes to the Lord. He has covered everything in that passage. He says He delights in this. We want to put the word in our heart and His word before our face. His word is there in our hearts. Meditate on these things. This is what will change us.

Psalm 26 NKJV

This is a Psalm of David. It is the heartbeat of David and of Jesus. In this world, we deal with wickedness and sinners as we once were as humans. You have situations that occur where you might need vindication. Where you have been walking up rightly. You have been walking in truth. You have been walking in the ways of God. You have been walking in what is just, pure, true, and holy with all of your heart. But, the evil one comes against you in your walk of righteousness, so the cry comes out, "Vindicate me, oh, Lord. I have walked in my integrity." You are walking before God with an honest heart. You are walking in Him. You are doing the best you know how to do as unto the Lord, in obedience to His word and serving the Lord. Then evil will come against that. Wickedness hates righteousness, but "the righteous shall prevail."

Years ago in my journey here, I had a dream at night. In the dream, I saw a scroll. Psalm 26, was at the top and a finger was underlining the words, "Psalm 26." When I woke up I was thinking, "I need to read Psalm 26." Don't you like it when God is that clear with you? In that time, I was needing vindication, because I was standing for what was right, upright and of the Spirit of God. Amen. So, I have prayed Psalm 26 ever since. You can do it, too. Amen.

This is the Lord's heart. The Lord will go before you, His people, to defend them. The Lord will go before you to defend you. He will go before you to win battles for you before you get there. The Lord will go before you to protect you. He already knows. He knows what is ahead of you. He's already there. God's prophecy is always future. He knows the the beginning from the end. He already knows the end, and then it comes back to your now. The Lord has already gone before you. The Lord goes before His people to defend them. Vindication comes from Him. We don't want to glory in anything but the Lord. Amen.

1 Samuel 2:10 NLT

"Those who fight against the Lord will be shattered. He thunders against them from Heaven. The Lord judges throughout the Earth. He gives power to His king. He increases the strength of His anointed one."

This is a power packed verse.

Psalm 18:13-14 NLT

"The Lord thundered from Heaven, the voice of the Most High resounded amid the hail and burning coals. He shot His arrows and scattered His enemies. Great bolts of lightning flashed, and they were confused."

Psalm 18:14 NKJV

"He sent out His arrows and scattered the foe. Lightnings in abundance, and He vanquished them."

I like that, "He vanquished them."

I Samuel 7:3-13

Samuel is the prophet here.

"Then Samuel spoke to all the house of Israel, saying, "If you return to the Lord with all your hearts, then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtoreths from among you, and prepare your hearts for the Lord, and serve Him only; and He will deliver you from the hand of the Philistines." So the children of Israel put away the Baals and the Ashtoreths, and served the Lord only. And Samuel said, "Gather all Israel to Mizpah, and I will pray to the Lord for you." So they gathered together at Mizpah, drew water, and poured it out before the Lord. And they fasted that day, and said there, "We have sinned against the Lord." And Samuel judged the children of Israel at Mizpah. Now when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel had gathered together at Mizpah, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard of it, they were afraid of the Philistines. So the children of Israel said to Samuel, "Do not cease to cry out to the Lord our God for us, that He may save us from the hand of the Philistines." And Samuel took a suckling lamb and offered it as a whole burnt offering to the Lord. Then Samuel cried out to the Lord for Israel, and the Lord answered him. Now as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel. But the Lord thundered with a loud thunder upon the Philistines that day, and so confused them that they were overcome before Israel. And the men of Israel went out of Mizpah and pursued the Philistines, and drove them back as far as below Beth Car. Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen, and called its name Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far the Lord has helped us." So the Philistines were subdued, and they did not come anymore into the territory of Israel. And the hand of the Lord was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel."

What leadership! What a powerful testimony of the children of God, the children of Israel, going astray in their hearts and worshiping other gods. Going astray from what is right, true, pure and holy. They went astray and even gave themselves over to worship of other gods, other lords, and other dumb idols. Over and over again through the history of the Bible, God granted them repentance. There was always someone crying out to God. "Vindicate me, God." There was always someone crying out on behalf of the people of God, for those who belong to Him, as well as against the wicked schemes of the evil one. Somewhere in here, they say, "But, the Lord thundered in the midst of this declaration, as they are crying out, "Lord, help us." Saying, "You, have the anointing, so keep praying for us until God answers." Samuel continued to do that, and sacrificed and praised. The Lord God answered. It says, "He thundered with a loud thunder upon the Philistines that day. They were confused and overcome." Can you hear it, judgment came.

II Samuel 22:14 NKJV

"The Lord thundered from Heaven, and the Most High uttered His voice."

Now you are bringing together thunder and voice. You are bringing together thunder and the might of God. You are bringing together thunder and His righteous judgments. You are bringing together thunder and the sound that comes from Heaven's throne, to judge the sons of men, on behalf of His people and righteousness. So, His Kingdom can prevail. That's a bunch of thunder. Job has something to say about this.

Job 37:2 NKJV

He says, *"Hear attentively the thunder of His voice, and the rumbling that comes from His mouth."*

Powerful.

Job 37:5 NKJV

"God thunders marvelously with His voice. He does great things which we cannot comprehend."

Scripture says, "His ways are not our ways and His thoughts are not our thoughts." Everything He does is always, "Wow! God really went above and beyond this." He's always "going to do exceedingly, abundantly, above and beyond what you can hope, think or imagine."

That is who God is.

Job 40:9 NLT

He says, *"Are you as strong as God? Can you thunder with a voice like His?"*
Who is like Him?

In the New Testament, there are two recordings where God spoke from Heaven. You are very familiar with these passages. This is when Jesus has been water baptized in the Jordan River by John.

Matthew 3:16

He says, "When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

God was testifying of the baptism of His Son. He was testifying and opening His Son up to His blessing, His authority, and His dominion, as a Father to the Son, in that region. He audibly spoke from Heaven. Come on. They didn't say, "It sounded like thunder." Right. He said, "This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." How glorious!

Matthew 17:1-6 NKJV

"Now after six days, Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here, if you wish, let us make here three tabernacles; one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly, a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid." Amen.

What glory that the Father spoke from Heaven, directly, audibly, tangibly, and openly. That you would know, God had thundered marvelously with His voice! Hallelujah.

Are you familiar with the term, "Some say it thundered?" On March 8, this week, I woke up in the middle of the night at 2:30 AM. I had been dreaming. I woke up to a sound. Some of you might have as well. I woke up to an explosion of the loudest thunder I have ever heard. It was a booming thunder. I sat straight up in bed. I immediately turned and said to Jeff, "Did you hear

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that thunder? Did you hear that explosion? It sounded like a bomb went off.” He didn't answer me and didn't hear anything. My heart is racing. I am wondering if it is raining outside. In Texas when it thunders, it rolls and just seems to reverberate. The next morning I asked my children that live here if they heard it thunder in the middle of night? The one who works and is up in the middle of the night heard it. Yes, I know when God is speaking to me, right? I know when God is speaking to me, and when you do that, you wake up and there's a stirring in your spirit. It takes you beyond a thunderstorm. That is a testimony. “Some say it thundered,” but is God speaking? Do you have ears to hear this?

John 12:27-50 NKJV

That's as clear as you can make it. This is the essence of the heart of God. It is always been His heart, and it was highlighted. The voice came, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.” Jesus knew to say, “Father, glorify Your name.” That's how we overcome. Jeremiah saw it, and Jeremiah knew it. The overcomers knew it. Samuel knew it. The prophets, those who carried the word of the Lord, knew God's voice. They could say, “This is how He moves on the Earth,” when God moves sovereignly to make a decision to reveal His purposes and to give victory to the righteous.

The Lord God Almighty “thundered from heaven.” It resonates throughout all of creation. I have no doubt. He just keeps going and going and going and going and going and going and going and going into all the universe. All the stars praise Him, all the heavens praise Him, and all the land praises Him. Those who fear God keep His commands and praise Him. Jesus knew Him. He knew, right before the voice came and said, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.” God is always speaking through His word.

Jesus is the Word sent to save us. Ultimately, it brings the fear of the Lord to those who are in the house, in the synagogues of the Jewish faith, the Pharisees and the Sadducees. Many were believing in Him, but they would not confess Him amongst their brethren for the fear of man. I think we nailed that this morning. That is where it lies. Because, you believe in your heart and confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord.” That's how you are saved. God is pointing to this.

Even through the night this week of the sound of thunder exploding like a bomb. I wasn't thinking evil. I wasn't thinking a bomb just went off, and they have come after us. I am attentive. You have to have a prophetic ear to hear. But, your soul is going, “Was that real? Or did God just thunder? Was that a natural thunder? Did God just thunder to awaken the Bride in this hour? There is so much prayer going on. There is so much intercession going on. There are so many righteous remnants praying and decreeing the words of the Lord. They are doing what God says. They are interceding for people, families, cities, regions, states, the nation, and the nations.

God hears from Heaven, and He knows whose hearts are His and who will walk as one with Christ. Those who will take up their cross daily and follow Him. Because, He currently has come to seek and save the lost and for righteousness to prevail. It is like Samuel, “Keep praying, because we need a victory from these Philistines. Church, keep praying, because the lost need victory, so that they can come out of darkness and into life. Keep praying for those family members. Keep praying for yourself and one another. Amen. God's purposes are succeeding in the Earth. He is so far above and beyond what we are thinking, but He is always good.

Let's stand up and honor what He's saying. I pray that you wake up and hear thunder. Maybe it will bring forth the rain. When you hear the thunder, think of me and smile, because I have jumped out of my bed. Amen.

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“Father, we give you all the glory. Lord, put it in our heart, like you did your Son, to live to glorify you and not for ourself. Put in our hearts what you put in your Son to glorify your name in all things. Father, let us hear your voice. Let us prophetically see it as thunder. Let us move on the words and instruction that you give us, to obey, to do, and to pray. Help us to believe you, God. Help us to see you, God. That we will not doubt, God.

We know that the supernatural realm invades faith. The gift of faith brings Heaven to Earth. I pray you would impart new faith, new fire, new belief in the everyday life, as well as the big battles. Lord, we look to you. We are light in this world. That's what Jesus said. “Walk in the light while the light is available.” We are light in this world, and the darkness cannot comprehend it. It cannot overcome it. In Jesus’ name, amen. Amen.