



Alpha & Omega
Christian Worship Center
1110 39th St, Newport News, VA 23607

Do You Hear What I Hear “I Hear the Sound of Abundant Rain”

Pastor K. Franklin, Sermon Notes / Sunday, May 2, 2010

Outline is available at <http://www.alphaomegaworship.org/Resources.htm>

Listen to the sermon online at <http://www.alphaomegaworship.org/Audio.htm>

1 KING 18:

40. And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them: and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there.
41. And Elijah said unto Ahab, **Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain.**
42. So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he cast himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees,
43. And said to his servant, Go up now, look toward the sea. And he went up, and looked, and said, **There is nothing.** And he said, **Go again seven times.**
44. And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold, **there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand.** And he said, Go up, say unto Ahab, Prepare thy chariot, and get thee down, that the rain stop thee not.
45. And it came to pass in the mean while, **that the heaven was black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain.** And Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel.
46. And the hand of the LORD was on Elijah; and he girded up his loins, and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

Monologue

- What are you listening to today
- What do you hear
- Are you dull of hearing
- Do you believe that God is Real
 - His Sheep Hear His Voice
- God wants to raise your awareness, he wants you to grow up, he wants you to stop walking in the flesh, he wants you to hear with your spirit and not with your emotions
 - Many of us are too emotional, we hear with our emotions and feelings and not with our Spirit
 - If you judge what I do as pastor in the flesh, you will never understand me
- Have you ever asked God why you are where you are at?
 - Most of the time we are so consumed with where we want to be that we never stop and analyze where we are at
 - You are where God has allowed you to be
 - There is work to do where you are at



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- If you would stop worrying about where you are trying to get to and appreciate and do what you need to do where you are, you will find yourself where God wants you to be
 - They told me last year that I would not get any raises on this contract because I was over their bid rate
 - I put it in God's hand and decided that it was better to work and have a paycheck than to quit over no getting a pay raise and have nothing
 - I worked hard and long and did everything they required of me and more without murmuring or complaining and left in God hands
 - This year they did layoffs where I work but I made the cut, I still have a job
 - But it gets better than that, they not only gave me a bonus but they gave me a pay raise
 - See promotion and blessing come from the Lord
 - I had to hear the voice of the Lord who told me to go into the vineyard and work and that he would pay me whatsoever was right
 - I had to trust him, I had to wait on him
- **Today, I want to come by your house spiritually, I want to drive down you street, you may find it uncomfortable but we need to go there to deal with the issues and help you reach your fullest potential**
- **It is my job as a pastor to push you to places in God that you may not even want to go but you need to for your own growth and spirituality.**
- **BY FAITH ELIJAH**, heard the voice of God
 - He closed up heaven for three years and six months and then he caused the heaven to give forth rain and the earth brought forth fruit (James 5:17-18)
 - He heard the sound of the rain even when it was not there because he was in tune with God, his will, and his word

GOD'S SHEEP KNOW HIS VOICE

ST JOHN 10:

1. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.
2. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.
3. To him the porter openeth; **and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.**
4. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, **and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.**
5. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.



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- As the sheep of God, we need to know the voice of God!
 - How much time do you spend in fellowship with the Lord
 - Have you gotten to the place where you know his voice?
- I became a sheep by Faith
 - I was saved by Faith
 - I now live by faith
 - I walk by Faith
 - I Preach by Faith
- What about you, were not you saved by Faith?
 - Do you now live by Faith?
 - Do you walk by Faith?
 - Then you must listen by Faith
 - If I preach by Faith, then you must listen by Faith
- It is not just the words that you need to listen for, you need to listen behind the word to hear the Spirit, You should ask not what I'm saying but why is the Holy Ghost having me to say these words, sometimes, the same words over and over, you should be asking, what am I missing, is this issue correct in my life, Holy Ghost, what are you saying to me? What do I need to get out of this sermon?
- See, I work daily on dying to the flesh,
 - I don't have a stake in my sermons
 - I didn't what to preach, God selected me to preach
 - I don't need to pastor, God told me pastor, I'm okay if I'm not a pastor
 - He didn't send me to make you feel good, He didn't send me to worry about your feeling and emotions
 - He sent me to love you and preach the word
 - See, If I love you, I'll care more about your destiny than your feeling
 - I will tell you the truth because I want you to be saved
 - I will tell you the truth because I want you to grow up and be all that God wants you to be
- See, I deal and live with shortcomings that are in my flesh
 - I try to understand them, recognize them, and then deal with them
 - I want people to be honest with me about myself
 - I'm constantly allowing the power of God to help me to work on my shortcoming and strength who I am, not for me but for his Glory
 - Moses started out as a child, born into privilege
 - Turned into a murderer and a runaway
 - And God transformed him into a great leader who delivered his people from bondage and brought them into the opportunity for relationship with God.
 - They murmured the whole way and all of those who were adults were lost in the wilderness with the exception of two; Cain and Able.



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Natural Parables with Spiritual Understanding

ST MATTHEW 13:

1. The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side.
2. And great multitudes were gathered together unto him, so that he went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore.
3. And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow;
4. And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:
5. Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:
6. And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.
7. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:
8. But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.
9. **Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.**
10. And the disciples came, and said unto him, **Why speakest thou unto them in parables?**
11. He answered and said unto them, Because **it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven**, but to them it is not given.
12. For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath.
13. Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.
14. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, **By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:**
15. For this people's **heart is waxed gross**, and their **ears are dull of hearing**, and **their eyes they have closed**; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.
16. But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear.
17. For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.
 - If you are a child of God, it is given to you to know the things of God
 - Don't get overcome with the cares of this world and find that your hearing is dulled, and you are blind

Carnal versus Spiritual

ROMANS 8:

Do You Hear What I Hear!



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7. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

➤ Carnal means flesh

CARNAL // 4559. sarkikos, sar-kee-kos'; from G4561; pertaining to flesh, i.e. (by extens.) bodily, temporal, or (by impl.) animal, unregenerate:--carnal, fleshly.

GROW FROM CARNALITY TO SPIRITUALITY

1 CORINTHIANS 3:

1. And I, brethren, could not **speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal**, even as unto babes in Christ.
2. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able.
3. For ye **are yet carnal**: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?
4. For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?
5. Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?
6. I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.
7. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.
8. Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.
9. For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.
 - God needs us to grow from our natural, unregenerate selves into people that live and walk by the Spirit, like the early church (Study the book of Acts)
 - If we don't grow up, God want be able to communicate to us about spiritual things
 - If you don't know where you are, look at the fruit of your life and it will show you where you are
 - Envy, strife, and division is evidence of walking in the flesh

HEAR WHAT THE SPIRIT SAYEST UNTO THE CHURCHES

REVELATIONS 2:

1. **Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write**; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;
2. I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:
3. And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.

Do You Hear What I Hear!



4. Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.
5. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.
6. But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate.
7. **He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches;** To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.
8. **And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write;** These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive;
9. I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.
10. Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.
11. **He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches;** He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.
12. **And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write;** These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges;
13. I know thy works and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.
14. But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.
15. So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate.
16. Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.
17. **He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches;** To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.
18. **And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write;** These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass;
19. I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first.
20. Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.
21. And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not.
22. Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.
23. And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.
24. But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.



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25. But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.
26. And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:
27. And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.
28. And I will give him the morning star.
29. **He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.**

REVELATIONS 3:

1. **And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write;** These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.
2. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.
3. Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.
4. Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy.
5. He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.
6. **He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.**
7. **And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write;** These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;
8. I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.
9. Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.
10. Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.
11. Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.
12. Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.
13. **He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.**
14. **And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write;** These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;
15. I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.
16. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.



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17. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:
18. 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.
19. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.
20. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.
21. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.
22. **He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.**

- Seven times, each time to one of the 7 churches, did God exhort that they should hear, what the Spirit was saying to the churches
 - He needed them to listen behind the words and sermons to see the reality of what God say
 - In many instances they thought they were doing well but that was not the case
 - The Spirit was trying to warn them that they were not what God desired
 - They had fallen short
- What do you think the Spirit is saying to the church today
 - More specifically, what do you think the Spirit would say to the church that lives in your body
 - What do you hear when you listen to the word of God
 - What is the Holy Ghost exhorting you to do or accomplish or change or be?

Conclusion

- When I was called, I was given very explicit instruction in one of the dreams that I always needed to look to God so he could teach me how to preach
 - I do appreciate the feedback that many offer me but I think I should be honest with you, it has no effect on my preaching....I appreciate what you are saying but I do not let it shape how I preach or what I say
 - See, I have this commitment to God to let him be my teacher, my guide, to preach what he says preach, when and how and trust that I am in his will by Faith
 - But I don't stop there, I stay on my knees and I am constantly examining myself and questioning whether I am in the Faith, am I saying what he wants me to say, am I doing what He wants me to do, and he keep assuring me with SIGNS AND WONDERS!
 - For everyone that questions, God always send along a confirmation that his word is being effective and reaching those that it is sent to; sometimes it comes from miles and miles away
- God needs his church to grow up and learn to hear with spiritual ears



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- These seven church could have been written to anywhere but they were written to in the book of revelation which share events of the end time
 - I believe one of the reasons they were written to in revelations was so the churches of today would listen especially hard to the Spirit in the last days so they would not be DECEIVED with the world, that they would be in tune with the Holy Spirit
- Sound of a rushing mighty wind that came from Heaven
 - Don't confuse the natural with the spiritual
 - War between carnal and spiritual
 - Paul could not speak unto them as spiritual but as carnal because they were walking in their flesh
 - The letter to churches about hearing what the spirit says unto the church

When I was called, I was given the 3rd chapter of Ezekiel as a guide

HEAR THE WORDS AT GOD'S MOUTH AND SPEAK

EXEKIEL 3:

1. Moreover he said unto me, **Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel.**
2. So I **opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat that roll.**
3. And he said unto me, **Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness.**
4. And he said unto me, Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Israel, **and speak with my words unto them.**
5. For thou art not sent to a people of a strange speech and of an hard language, but to the house of Israel;
6. Not to many people of a strange speech and of an hard language, whose words thou canst not understand. Surely, had I sent thee to them, they would have hearkened unto thee.
7. But the house of Israel will not hearken unto thee; for they will not hearken unto me: for all the house of Israel are impudent and hardhearted.
8. Behold, **I have made thy face strong against their faces, and thy forehead strong against their foreheads.**
9. **As an adamant harder than flint have I made thy forehead: fear them not, neither be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house.**
10. Moreover he said unto me, **Son of man, all my words that I shall speak unto thee receive in thine heart, and hear with thine ears.**
11. And go, **get thee to them of the captivity,** unto the children of thy people, and speak unto them, and tell them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear.
12. Then the **spirit took me up, and I heard behind me a voice of a great rushing, saying, Blessed be the glory of the LORD from his place.**



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13. I heard also the noise of the wings of the living creatures that touched one another, and the noise of the wheels over against them, and a noise of a great rushing.
 14. So the spirit lifted me up, and took me away, and I went in bitterness, in the heat of my spirit; but the hand of the LORD was strong upon me.
 15. Then I came to them of the captivity at Telabib, that dwelt by the river of Chebar, and I sat where they sat, and remained there astonished among them seven days.
 16. And it came to pass at the end of seven days, **that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,**
 17. Son of man, **I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.**
 18. **When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.**
 19. **Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.**
 20. **Again, When a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand.**
 21. **Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul.**
 22. And the hand of the LORD was there upon me; and he said unto me, Arise, go forth into the plain, and I will there talk with thee.
 23. Then I arose, and went forth into the plain: and, behold, the glory of the LORD stood there, as the glory which I saw by the river of Chebar: and I fell on my face.
 24. Then the spirit entered into me, and set me upon my feet, and spake with me, and said unto me, Go, shut thyself within thine house.
 25. But thou, O son of man, behold, they shall put bands upon thee, and shall bind thee with them, and thou shalt not go out among them:
 26. And I will make thy tongue cleave to the roof of thy mouth, that thou shalt be dumb, and shalt not be to them a reprover: for they are a rebellious house.
 27. **But when I speak with thee, I will open thy mouth, and thou shalt say unto them,** Thus saith the Lord GOD; He that heareth, let him hear; and he that forbeareth, let him forbear: for they are a rebellious house.
- I NOT ONLY BELIEVE THIS, I LIVE THIS AND I KNOW IT IS TRUE BECAUSE I HAVE WITNESSED THE HAND AND VOICE OF GOD IN MY LIFE OVER AND OVER AGAIN
- Church we have a great opportunity
- Here stands before you a man that is trying to best of his ability to hear from God and flow him in spirit and in truth
 - There is no one over us telling us to go this way or that way
 - Each is encouraged to listen to and follow the Holy Ghost

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- Is this an issue of trust
 - God started speaking to me at an early age
 - I trust the Holy Ghost that has been living within me
 - I know he will guide and lead me into truth
 - DO YOU TRUST HIM
 - Man has this tendency to need validation from man, someone he can see, someone in flesh in blood
 - It happened in the days of Moses when they ran from God and his voice at the mountain and God instituted the priest hood
 - It happened in the days of Samuel when they demanded a king and got Saul
 - It happened in the days of Jesus when they looked more to the Pharisees and the Sadducees than they did to Jesus
 - It happened in the early church when they began to look to the Apostles rather than Christ
 - It is happening again today when we look to the pastor and the preacher and the church organizations than we do to God
 - God's plan is that he would have an intimate relationship with each Believer
 - That is why he call us CHILDREN!! SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF GOD
 - That is why we are urged to call him FATHER!!
 - LEARN TO TRUST THE HOLY GHOST IN YOU
 - Don't look to me but look to him
 - Don't put your trust in me but put your trust in Him