



“CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: DOING WHO I AM”

Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying: “Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.” Isaiah 6:8

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TEXT: JOHN 1:10-13

TITLE: GOD SEES. GOD HEARS. GOD ACTS.

INTRODUCTION

I. “Children Should Be Seen and Not Heard”

The English proverb *children should be seen and not heard* means that children are allowed to be present during a conversation but should not be allowed to speak unless they are spoken to first.

- A. That’s what we grew up with...Most of us in a certain “older” generation, at least.
- B. But what did this really mean?
- C. How did we really feel?
- D. Who did this adage really serve?
- E. Who did this adage dis-serve?
- F. What affect did this adage have on us a children when applied?
- G. Is there another way to be with children? With us as God’s children?
- H. Was this/is this God-like?

II. But we are God’s Children

Text:

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become **children of God**, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God” John 1:12-13 NKJV

- A. So how do we live with our dual parentage as “Children of God?” We do so by living according to God’s word.
 - a. God’s word invites
 - b. God’s word commands
 - c. God’s word demonstrates
 - i. Demonstrates that
 1. God Sees Us
 2. God Hears Us
 3. God Acts on our behalf because God truly sees us and because God clearly hears us.

III. How is this so? Show me? Well, Let’s see.

A. God Sees Us

- a. Genesis 16:13 Hagar as she is sent out and is in the wilderness with her son, Ishmael. Basically sent out to fend for themselves; practically sent out from Sarah and Abraham, Ishmael’s father, sent out to die.
- b. God speaks to Hagar.
- c. God sees Hagar and Ishmael, her son
 - i. To speak to someone, you see someone.
 1. God addressed her plight
 2. God spoke to her future

- d. Hagar responds: v. 13: “Have I really seen God and lived to tell about it?” So, she called the Lord, who had spoken to her, A GOD WHO SEES, or El-Roi, naming the place where God sees her, “The Well of the Living One Who Sees Me.”
- e. What is the name of the place where God last “saw” you?

B. God Hears Us

- a. Exodus 3:7-12 “Then the Lord said, “I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry of the account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings...The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them.”
 - i. God is observing us as we live.
 - 1. Our situation
 - 2. Our circumstances
 - 3. Our condition – Our misery
 - ii. God sees and hears us individually and collectively.
 - iii. God sees and hears in community.

C. God Acts on Our Behalf as God Sees Us and Hears Us

- a. God delivers
- b. God provides
- c. God protects
- d. God accompanies
- e. God comforts
- f. God heals
- g. God saves

IV. When you are God’s Child you have the Benefit of All of God’s attention.

- a. With God, children are to be seen.
- b. With God, children are to be heard.
- c. With God, children access the power to prompt God into action on your/our behalf.

All because YOU ARE GOD’S CHILD