

the Father has told Me, so I speak” (12:50). Oh, that we had such a relationship with our Father that we knew how to respond with His wisdom!

Perhaps it begins with obeying James’ challenge to be “swift to hear, slow to speak” (1:19). This is not the slowness of ignorance, emptiness, timidity, guilt, or shame. But the slowness of wisdom born of dwelling quietly on the Lord and His thoughts.

We’re often told to stop and think before we speak. But I think we should take it much further and live a life where we’re always listening for God’s wisdom. —David Roper

*Lord, grant that we may hear You speak;
For truth within our hearts we seek;
For unto Christ we would be true
And know what He Himself would do. —D. De Haan*

Listen to God before you speak for God.



DECEMBER 22, 2019

The Slowness Of Wisdom

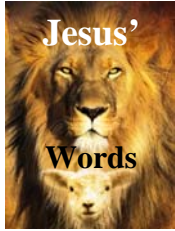
Whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak. —John 12:50

When the Pharisees came to Jesus with the woman caught in adultery and asked Him what should be done with her, He knelt for a moment and scribbled in the sand (John 8:6-11). We have no idea what He wrote. But when they continued asking Him, Jesus responded in one short sentence: “He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first” (v.7). His few words accomplished much in confronting the



Pharisees with their own sin, for they walked away one by one. Even today those words resound around the world.

Jesus had such a closeness to and dependence on His Father that He said of Himself, “Whatever I speak, just as



Our Saviour Who Came

(Ephesians 5:12) "For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret."

John 7:37-38, 53-8:1-2

In John 8:1-12 we can discern 3 attitudes to the sin of adultery: (I hope we end with marvelling at our Saviour)

1. The ugliness of _____, verses 3-9



(Leviticus 20:10) "The man who commits adultery with another man's wife, .. the adulterer and the adulteress, shall surely be put to death."

(Deuteronomy 22:24) ""then you shall bring them both out to the gate of that city, and you shall stone them to

death with stones, ..."

(Matthew 23:13) ""But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in."

(Matthew 23:23) ""Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone."

(Matthew 5:28) ""But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart."

(1 John 1:9) "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

(John 15:5) ""... for without Me you can do nothing."

(Galatians 6:1) "Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted."

2. The _____ of the sinner, verses 10-11

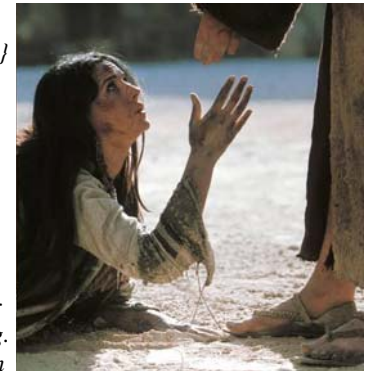
(1 Corinthians 12:3) "... no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit."

(Romans 8:1) "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus,"

(1 Samuel 15:18-25) ""Now the LORD sent you on a mission,' {19} "Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD? .. {20} And Saul said to Samuel, "But I have obeyed the voice of the LORD,{22} Then Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? .. {23} ..Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king." {24} Then Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice. {25} "Now therefore, please pardon my sin, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD.""

(Psalms 51:1-4) "Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; .. Blot out my transgressions. {2} .. cleanse me from my sin. {3} For I acknowledge my transgressions, ... {4} Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight; ..."

(Psalms 51:16-17) "For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. {17} The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart; These, O God, You will not despise."



3. The beauty of the _____, verses 7, 11-12

(John 1:1-4) "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. {2} He was in the beginning with God. {3} All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. {4} In Him was life, and the life was the light of men."

(John 1:14) "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

(John 3:19) ""And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."

(Revelation 21:23) "The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light."

