

## Be Ready To Hear!

---

by Wayne Goff

Jesus had much to say in the Gospel accounts about hearing. He warned His disciples to take heed **how** they heard (Lk. 8:18), **what** they heard (Mk. 4:24), and most often **that** they heard (Matt. 11:15; 13:9; 13:43; etc.). **"He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"**

Sadly, most people do **not** have ears to hear. Even of God's people Isaiah prophesied, *"For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing..."* (Is. 6:9-10). Six hundred years later, Jesus repeated Isaiah's words and applied them to His generation of Jews (Matt. 13:15). This leads us to come to realize one important truth:

### **SIN CAUSES SPIRITUAL DEAFNESS!**

Moreover, Jesus began to speak to the people in **parables** -- a great *learning* device for those who care enough to dig out the truth, and a sufficient *hindrance* to the uncaring to miss the truth (Matt. 13:11)! Jesus did not want to cast His pearls before spiritual swine!

When you come to worship God, do you come ready to hear? I pray that you do. God knows your heart, and those who come **prepared to hear**, get something out of the Bible classes and sermons. Those who come and *endure* those lessons, who *care little* for the content, and who are *dreaming* of what they will do when they get out of church are wasting their time. Dear reader, our eternal souls' destiny depends on **how** we hear, **what** we hear, and **if** we hear! Only you can decide to hear for yourself. Nobody can make you listen.

*"But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear"* (Matt. 13:16). It is a wondrous privilege to have the opportunity to hear the Gospel, for it is the culmination of centuries of Divine preparation (Eph. 3:11; Titus 1:2; Eph. 3:5). Many godly people in prior ages did not have that privilege. Also, it is a great privilege to speak to those who hear. Cornelius said it best: *"Now therefore, we are all present before God, to hear all the things commanded you by God"* (Acts 10:33).

283701