

## **Who's Listening?**

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*“What shall we then say to these things, if God be for us, who can be against us?” (Romans 8:31)*

When Jesus instructed His disciples in faith, he told them to “speak to this mountain” (Mark 11:23). The occasion for this lesson was a dead fig tree Jesus had just spoken to a day earlier. In another teaching on faith, Jesus told his disciples to speak to a sycamore tree to be plucked up (Luke 17:6). Are you beginning to understand? Faith works as we speak God’s Word and commandments against problems.

When Joshua needed more daylight to finish his battle against five kings, he commanded nature to come to a halt, so he could finish the fight. “.. And he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon” (Joshua 10:12). Joshua was not afraid to speak to nature before the entire nation. His faith was not a secret of the heart, but an open manifestation before all. In Mark 11, Jesus spoke to the fig tree in the presence of his disciples and verse 11 informs us, “His disciples heard it”.

Authority must have a voice. I cannot find a place where Jesus prayed for the sick. I find over and over again that He spoke to sickness and demons and commanded them to go. Demons, sickness, and all satanic power were placed under the feet of the Lord Jesus. He then placed them under our feet also. “Behold, I give unto you power (authority) to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you” (Luke 10:19).

In our opening verse, Paul joins with Joshua, Jesus, and others. He tells us to speak to the circumstances of life and say, “If God be for me, you cannot be against me”. The authority given to Joshua, Jesus and Paul has also been given to us. We need to speak to the circumstances of life and believe they will change.

But why did God tell us to speak to circumstances or trials? If we can speak to sickness, demons and the circumstances of life, *they must be able to hear*. Jesus said the sycamore tree would *obey*. For a tree to obey, it has to hear the command first. If good trees will one day clap their hands and oceans roar at the coming of Jesus, they must be able to respond to the voice of God today.

Why not speak to your checkbook as if it can hear? Why not speak to your cancer as if it has ears? Speak to them and say, "Checkbook, I command you to open up to the provisions of God. You have been against me too long. Cancer, if God be for me, you cannot be against me. I rebuke you and command you to leave my body in the name of Jesus. Come out by the roots and be cast into the sea." Jesus said things and circumstances will obey you. Quit letting your troubles and problems speak to you. Talk back to them and claim your authority in Jesus' name. They will hear and obey.

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