

Pay Close Attention

Shalom,

*“Hear, oh heavens, as I speak!  
Listen, earth, to the words from my mouth!  
May my teaching fall like rain.  
May my speech condense like dew,  
like light rain on blades of grass,  
or showers on growing plants.  
“For I will proclaim the name of ADONAI.  
Come, declare the greatness of our God!  
The Rock! His work is perfect,  
for all His ways are just.  
A trustworthy God Who does no wrong,  
He is righteous and straight.”*

(Deuteronomy 32:1-4 CJB)

This week’s Torah portion is **Deuteronomy 32:1-52**. It is called **Ha’azinu**, or **“Give ear.”** In this song, God prepared the Children of Israel for the end of Moses’ ministry. He gave them words of inspiration through a prophetic utterance of the Holy Spirit to **inspire, equip, and warn them**, instructing them how to prosper and remain faithful, **clearly showing them the consequences of rebellious decision-making**. His words to them give direction to all who read and understand that God’s words are timeless and are **truth for all eternity**. The Spirit of God gave Moses a song for His people to **memorize and sing to themselves so that they would remember and teach it to their children for encouraging obedience to all of God’s instruction**. These words are recorded after the end of the song to emphasize what had been written in Deuteronomy 30:19 as the choice between life and death.

The key to all His instruction is found in the beginning words of the song: **“Give ear,” and although the command to hear is to the heavens and the earth, certainly, they were also spoken for God’s people to hear and pay attention so that they would truly listen, really hear, and understand that they were to be changed by what they heard the Spirit of God say to them. Too many of us only hear a minimum of what is necessary, and may miss the point entirely, replacing what God says with men’s interpretations and traditions.** People become **programmed by bits and pieces of truth or by outright lies**, and because they perceive things with faulty natural understanding, they pollute truth into lies.

*For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.* (2 Timothy 4:3-4 ESV)

**Every Word of God is truth, and for our good, for it is alive! Indeed, it is Yeshua Who is the way, the truth and the life.** Only through rightly dividing the word of truth, will we discover that **all that YHWH has spoken is to show us the way to His eternal salvation through Jesus, the Messiah,** by stirring us to trust in His death, burial, and resurrection to redeem us from sin, and make us perfectly righteous.

*So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the Word of Christ.* (Romans 10:17 ESV)

*“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.”* (Deuteronomy 6:4-6 ESV)

It is obvious when God instructs us to listen by commanding the heavens and the earth to “Give ear” He is showing that **His Word is so alive and powerful that those who really hear it and hear it and hear it will be transformed by His truth into the very image of The Living Word of God, Jesus the Messiah.**

*...he said to them, “Take to heart all the words of my testimony against you today, so that you can use them in charging your children to be careful to obey all the words of this Torah. For this is not a trivial matter for you; on the contrary, it is your life! Through it you will live long in the land you are crossing the Yarden to possess.”* (Deuteronomy 32:46-47 CJB)

*For the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.* (Hebrews 4:12 ESV)

*For those whom He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, in order that He might be the firstborn among many brothers.* (Romans 8:29 ESV)

God’s plan for us, from the beginning, was that we might walk in **the new creation reality in Messiah Yeshua** that would always enable us to hear Him clearly so that His truth would completely re-program us to the way, the truth, and the life that is released in us through the trust that unites us with Him and the destiny He has ordained for us.

**An even more amazing and wonderful part of God's plan is this: When we choose to hear and walk in His Word, He empowers and equips us with His own faith and strength to live, as His very own children, doing His will and ministry on earth.**

Hearing Him clearly,  
Terry

*With your ears you will hear a word from behind you: "This is the way; stay on it..."*  
*Isaiah 30:21 (CJB)*

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