



### DEFINITIONS

**RELATIONSHIP:** THE WAY IN WHICH TWO OR MORE CONCEPTS (*ABSTRACT IDEA*), OBJECTS, OR PEOPLE ARE CONNECTED, OR THE STATE OF BEING CONNECTED.

**CONNECTED:** BROUGHT TOGETHER OR INTO CONTACT SO THAT A REAL OR NOTIONAL (*BELIEF, IMPULSE, DESIRE*) LINK IS ESTABLISHED; ASSOCIATED OR RELATED IN SOME RESPECT.

**CONTACT:** THE STATE OR CONDITION OF PHYSICAL TOUCHING; THE STATE OR CONDITION OF COMMUNICATING OR MEETING.

### **MAIN TEXT:**

#### **Hebrews 13:16 King James Version (KJV)**

- <sup>15</sup> By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.
- <sup>16</sup> But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.
- <sup>17</sup> Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

WE ENJOY GOD'S COMMUNICATION –  
IT BROUGHT MAN TOGETHER(CONNECTED) WITH HIS DESTINY.  
GENESIS 1:31“AND GOD SAW EVERYTHING THAT HE HAD MADE AND BEHOLD,  
IT WAS VERY GOOD.”

## **WE ARE RELATED – READ GENESIS 2: 1-4**

FROM THE BEGINNING OF TIME, GOD CREATED A STATE OR CONDITION OF RELATIONAL INTERACTIVITY. IN SCIENCE WE LEARNT ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ECOSYSTEM. WE UNDERSTOOD THAT WITHIN THE ECOSYSTEM ARE NUMEROUS ORGANISMS ENGAGED IN IMPORTANT ROLES. THE ECOSYSTEM PROVIDES AN EXCHANGE OF FOOD AND NUTRIENTS TO PLANT, ANIMAL AND HUMAN LIFE. EACH ORGANISM THRIVES ON THE ROLE/SUCCESS OF THE OTHER. YOU AND I GAIN OUR SUSTENANCE FROM THIS DAILY EXCHANGE.

## **WE ARE CONNECTED - READ GENESIS 2:5-8**

WHEN GOD OPENED HIS MOUTH, HE COMMUNICATED CONNECTIONS, BOUNDARIES, FRUITFULNESS AND FULFILLMENT. IN THE BOOK OF GENESIS GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH. HE CREATED AND SEPARATED LIGHT FROM DARKNESS. HE DIVIDED THE WATER FROM THE DRY GROUNDS. HE CREATED PLANETS, STARS AND SEASONS WHICH GOVERN OUR DAYS AND YEARS. OUR BIOMES WERE CREATED BY OUR HEAVENLY FATHER TO ENSURE OUR NUTRIENTS AND ENERGY WERE FLOWING FREELY.

## **WE ARE DESIGNED FOR CONTACT – READ GENESIS 2:18-25**



THE CREATION STORY EXUDES GOD'S DESIGN FOR PHYSICAL CONTACT. THE ENTIRE CREATION CRAVES THE TOUCH OF SOMEONE OR SOMETHING. PLANT LIFE DESIRE THE TOUCH OF THE SUN AND RAIN. ANIMAL LIFE WERE CREATED IN PAIRS WITH THE ABILITY TO PHYSICALLY CONNECT AND REPRODUCE. ADAM WAS ALONE WITH GOD FOR A SHORT TIME, WHEN GOD DECIDED TO GIVE HIM EVE. GOD DESIGNED PARTNERSHIPS TO FULFILL THE CYCLE OF LIFE.

COMMUNICATION, SACRIFICE AND OBEDIENCE PLEASE GOD  
HEBREWS 13: 16, 15 & 17

COMMUNICATION – READ HEBREWS 13:16



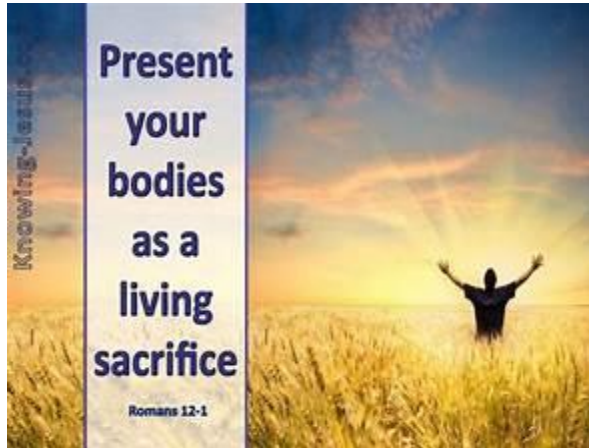
HEBREWS 13: 16 Commands us to *not forget* the importance of communication. To communicate simply means to share, or to pass on information, ideas and beliefs. It is important to share our information, ideas and beliefs with each other. We are indeed called to be witnesses of what we have seen, heard and experienced. When we decide to ignore the importance of communicating, we jeopardize our well-being. We cannot allow our self-centered desires to encroach on our ability to communicate with God and man.

Communication was the first thing that suffered when Adam became engulfed with his selfish desire. He consumed a fruit God had clearly communicated was not for his consumption. (Refer to Genesis 2:16-17) Adam refused to pass on or share with his wife Eve, that they should not disobey God. Today we suffer the consequences of his lack of communication. Adam and Eve then hid themselves from God's communication. They placed the blame on someone else for the disruption in the harmony of God's creation.

Have you ever found yourself trapped in blaming others for where you are presently in your life? Adam blamed his wife for the breakdown in his communication. Eve blamed the serpent for her deeds. Neither wanted to admit they had ignored the communication of their Creator. Our daily communication with our Maker will guide our decisions and activities. Our daily communication with our Heavenly Father will ensure our success.

**JEREMIAH 29:11-14 "FOR I KNOW THE THOUGHTS THAT I THINK TOWARD YOU, SAITH THE LORD, THOUGHTS OF PEACE AND NOT OF EVIL, TO GIVE YOU AN EXPECTED END. THEN YE SHALL CALL UPON ME, AND YE SHALL TO AND PRAY UNTO ME AND I WILL HEARKEN UNTO YOU. AND YE SHALL SEEK ME AND FIND ME, WHEN YE SHALL SEARCH FOR ME WITH ALL YOUR HEART. AND I WILL BE FOUND OF YOU, SAITH THE LORD; AND I WILL TURN AWAY YOUR CAPTIVITY, AND I WILL GATHER YOU FROM ALL THE NATIONS AND FROM ALL THE PLACES WHITHER I HAVE DRIVEN YOU, SAITH THE LORD; AND I WILL BRING YOU AGAIN INTO THE PLACE WHENCE I CAUSED YOU TO BE CARRIED AWAY CAPTIVE."**

## SACRIFICE PLEASURES GOD – READ HEBREWS 13:15



We acknowledge there is a challenge to communicate with God and man, successfully. God designed communication for our benefit, from the beginning. Genesis 3:8-10, reveals when our ability to communicate freely was deterred. The bible shares that God showed up to communicate with his children at a certain time – but because they were ashamed of their deeds – they hid from God. Have you ever tried to hide from God?

Adam and Eve not only hid from God, but the pure beauty of their relationship, connection and contact - was now under attack.

In Genesis 3:7, Adam and Eve changed their communication. The bible shares that they sewed plant life together to hide their nakedness. The plant life was given to them to dress (care for) and eat when they were hungry. Now they were using plant life for what it was not originally designated. Read the story of humankind's downfall for yourself. It is an amazing lesson in Genesis 3. It will reveal....

THE BREAKDOWN OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN GOD AND MAN  
THE BREAKDOWN OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN MAN AND WOMAN  
THE BREAKDOWN OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN WOMAN AND SERPENT  
THE BREAKDOWN OF OUR ACCESS TO GOD  
THE BREAKDOWN OF OUR ACCESS TO EACH OTHER  
THE BREAKDOWN OF OUR ACCESS TO THE GARDEN OF EDEN

God had to search for us “in the midst” of our disobedience and He called out to us - Where are you? He opened the door of redemption with a communication of a promise. A sacrifice had to be made and He immediately communicated His plan for restoration! Read Genesis 3:18

Yes.....it is challenging to walk with God, after our fall in the Garden of Eden. We grapple with a lot of guilt and shame. However, IT IS WORTH THE SACRIFICE! Our communication with God must be our first and last counsel for our day. God has communicated specific instructions for our success and protection. God has already communicated (shared/passed on) - our daily sustenance. He will guide us through our relationships, our connections and our contacts.

Prioritizing our communication with God improves our communication with man. We will practice Godly approaches and techniques when we need to communicate with each other. We will no longer become victimized by the plagues of disobedience that causes upheavals and distresses in our minds and hearts. We train our lips to offer sacrifices to praise God. We learn to practice “walking in the cool of the day” with God. Genesis 3:8

**1 SAMUEL 15:22 “AND SAMUEL SAID, HATH THE LORD AS GREAT DELIGHT IN BURNT OFFERINGS AND SACRIFICES, AS IN OBEYING THE VOICE OF THE LORD? BEHOLD, TO OBEY IS BETTER THAN SACRIFICE, AND TO HEarken THAN THE FAT OF RAMS.”**

## **OBEDIENCE PLEASURES GOD – HEBREWS 13:17**

IN GENESIS CHAPTERS 1-3, God clearly communicated his expectations and boundaries for his children. God expects our obedience to his structure and ordinances.

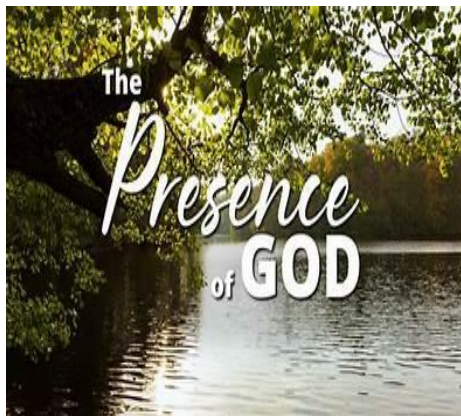
Not only did God communicate with humanity, but He also commanded the celestial and all terrestrial bodies. He expected their obedience. After each command, He viewed it and said it was good. In other words, they followed His instruction as He stated. God spoke to the children of Israel in the wilderness, and He expected them to obey the rules and ordinances He gave Moses. When God speaks and delivers specific instructions – He is expecting specific results. We know what happens to those who refuse to obey!

**GOD SPEAKS TO THE MOUNTAINS AND THE TREES AND THEY OBEY  
HE SPEAKS TO THE WIND AND THE WAVES AND THEY OBEY  
HE SPEAKS TO THE SUN AND THE MOON AND THEY OBEY  
HE SPEAKS TO DEATH AND LIFE AND THEY OBEY  
HE SPEAKS TO ANGELS AND FALLEN ANGELS AND THEY OBEY  
HE SPEAKS TO SICKNESS AND DISEASE AND THEY OBEY**

We are commanded and encouraged to obey God for our own good! I pray we do so in our daily communications. A plan was set in motion for all of God's creation when He uttered the words – "Let there be!" What do you and I utter in our daily communication? Our first and last daily utterance reveals our obedience or disobedience. Let us desire to please God with your lips.

**LUKE 6:45 - "A GOOD MAN OUT OF THE TREASURE OF HIS HEART BRINGETH FORTH THAT WHICH IS GOOD; AND AN EVIL MAN OUT OF THE TREASURE OF HIS HEART, BRINGETH FORTH THAT WHICH IS EVIL; FOR OF THE ABUNDANCE OF HIS HEART HIS MOUTH SPEAKETH."**

JAMES CHAPTER 3 also cautions us about the perils of our tongue. Our tongue guides our entire life! It serves our best interests in life when we surrender our tongue to God. When we surrender our communication to God, we become more pliable and obedient to the directions of Almighty God. Remember, after our father (Adam) and mother Eve) sinned in the garden, it unleashed a spirit of disobedience. We questioned the validity of God's communication. This act of disobedience separated us from the Presence of God. Have you ever experienced the Presence of God? Find the promises of God in your obedience.



**IN HIS PRESENCE THERE IS JOY  
IN HIS PRESENCE THERE IS LOVE  
IN HIS PRESENCE THERE IS HOPE  
IN HIS PRESENCE THERE IS FORGIVENESS  
IN HIS PRESENCE THERE IS STRENGTH  
IN HIS PRESENCE THERE IS PROTECTION  
IN HIS PRESENCE THERE IS SALVATION  
IN HIS PRESENCE THERE IS LIFE AND SO MUCH MORE!**  
DEUTERONOMY 5:33 – "YE SHALL WALK IN ALL THE WAYS WHICH THE LORD YOUR GOD HATH COMMANDED YOU, THAT YE MAY LIVE, AND THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YE MAY PROLONG YOUR DAYS IN THE LAND WHICH YE SHALL POSSESS."