

God's FINAL Word!

Hebrews 1:1-4

East Berlin Community Church

Pastor Keith A. Mosebrook

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Introduction

- Many today claim to have the “final word” on a particular subject, but in reality, no one has the “final word.”
- Many today believe there is no “final word” when it comes to religion. Many believe that all “roads lead to God” and that no one religion has the final say.

God's FINAL Word!

A. General Revelation: God has revealed Himself through creation!

- Psalm 19:1-6-- *“The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun, which is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoices like a strong man to run its race. Its rising is from one end of heaven, and its circuit to the other end; And there is nothing hidden from its heat.”*
1. Men know enough from general revelation of God's existence to condemn them.
 - Romans 1:19-20-- *“Because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse”*
 2. Men reject God's general revelation and create their own religions.
 - Romans 1:21-23-- *“Although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.”*

B. Special Revelation: God has spoken!

- Hebrews 1:1-4-- *“God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.”*
1. In the Old Testament days...
 - a. God spoke directly to Adam
 - Genesis 2:16-17-- *“Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”*
 - b. After Adam's fall, God spoke “to the fathers by the prophets”
 - 2 Peter 1:20-21-- *“knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”*

- c. **This special revelation was not revealed all at once, but progressively.**
- Hebrews 1:1-- *"God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets."*
- 1) God revealed His truth in fragments . *"various times"*
 - 2) God revealed His truth in *"various ways"*
 - 3) The Old Testament prophets tried to put the pieces together.
 - 1 Peter 1:10-12 -- *"Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven — things which angels desire to look into."*
- d. **The Holy Spirit guarantees the accuracy and authority of the Scriptures**
- 2 Timothy 3:16-- *"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."*
2. ***"In these last days, God has spoken to us by His Son"* God's FINAL Word!**
- Hebrews 1:1-2-- *"God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds."*
- a. **God's Final Word came in the *"last days"***
- 1) Jewish rabbis divided the time into two parts, *"this age"* and the *"age to come"*. The *"age to come"* is the Messianic Kingdom Age.
 - Hebrews 2:5. -- *"For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels."*
 - 2) Jews in the Old Testament era were looking forward to the *"last days"*.
 - Jeremiah 33:14-16-- *"Behold, the days are coming,' says the LORD, 'that I will perform that good thing which I have promised to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah: "In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David a Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell safely. And this is the name by which she will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS."*
 - 3) The *"last days"* began at Jesus' first coming will culminate with the destruction of the present heavens and earth and creation of the new.
- b. **God has spoken to us by *"His Son"*!**
- 1) The word *"His"* is not in the original nor is there a definite article before *"Son"*, thus emphasizing Jesus Christ's essential nature.
 - John 5:18-- *"Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God."*
 - 2) God has spoken to us by His Son, the is, by God Himself in the flesh.
 - 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 1:18-- *"No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him."*

- John 14:7-- *"If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him."*
 - John 14:8-- *"Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us."*
 - John 14:9-11-- *"Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves."*
- 3) As God the Father's FINAL Word, all the pieces of the Old Testament come together and find their fulfillment.
- a) Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of the LAW including the Levitical Sacrificial system.
- Matthew 5:17-18-- *"Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled."*
 - Hebrews 10:1-10-- *"For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins. Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for Me. In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure. Then I said, "Behold, I have come— In the volume of the book it is written of Me— To do Your will, O God." " Previously saying, "Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them" (which are offered according to the law), then He said, "Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God." He takes away the first that He may establish the second. By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified."*
- b) Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of the Old Testament promises and prophecies.
- 2 Corinthians 1:20-- *"For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us."*
 - Revelation 1:1-- *"The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants— things which must shortly take place."*
 - Revelation 19:10-- *"See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."*
- 4) The whole New Testament centers around Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is God's last, supreme, and final revelation of Himself to man!
- 5) **What makes Him supreme? Why should we listen to what He has to say?**
- Hebrew 1:2-4-- *" God...has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they."*

c. **Since God has spoken to by His Son, His FINAL Word, ...**

1) **We have no need of further revelation.** All that we need is contained in the Old and New Testament Scriptures.

2) **We had better listen to what He has to say!**

- Hebrews 2:1-3-- *"Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him."*
- Hebrews 12:25-- *"See that you do not refuse Him who speaks."*