

...Not By Bread Alone

Deuteronomy 8:3 *He humbled you and let you be hungry, and fed you with manna which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that He might make you understand that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD.*

1. The first half of this verse is essential to grasp in order to receive the promise stated in the second half. Look at these progressive steps: first comes humility; second comes hunger; third comes being fed fresh manna; and last, you are made to understand.
2. Spiritual hunger is what it is all about. Are you hungry for God and His ever-proceeding word? It is the hungry who are fed things they formerly knew nothing about. There are always new things to learn from God. There are always new things in God's heart He wants to share with His people. Satan himself confronted Jesus, and Jesus overcame the devil by declaring the written Word of God. **Matthew 4:4** states, *But He [Jesus] answered and said, It is written, "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God."*
3. You see, man lives by the ever-proceeding word of the Lord. God has spoken. God speaks and God will continue to speak in the future. This requires a listening relationship on man's part—one like the Holy Spirit has with the Father and the Son.

Isaiah 50:4-5 *The Lord God has given Me the tongue of disciples, That I may know how to sustain the weary one with a word. He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear to listen as a disciple. ⁵ The Lord God has opened My ear; And I was not disobedient Nor did I turn back.*

Does God Speak Today?

BIBLICAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST GOD SPEAKING TODAY...
(...AND WHY THEY ARE WRONG!)

1. God used to speak through prophets, but no longer

Hebrews 1:1-3 *Throughout our history God has spoken to our ancestors by his prophets in many different ways. The revelation he gave them was only a fragment at a time, building one truth upon another.* ² **But to us living in these last days, God now speaks to us openly in the language of a Son,** the appointed Heir of everything, for through him God created the panorama of all things and all time. ³ *The Son is the dazzling radiance of God's splendor, the exact expression of God's true nature—his mirror image! He holds the universe together and expands it by the mighty power of his spoken word. He accomplished for us the complete cleansing of sins, and then took his seat on the highest throne at the right hand of the majestic One.*

2. If you have the Scripture, you are "thoroughly equipped." You don't need more

2 Timothy 3:16-17 *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,* ¹⁷ *so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

3. Direct revelation came only to extraordinary believers or those closely connected to them

4. Direct revelation was necessary because the Bible was not yet complete

5. The Bible never commands us to listen for or expect direct revelation

6. According to the Bible, direct revelation was audible and/or crystal clear

2 Corinthians 4:8 *We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; we are always perplexed but never despairing...*