

## CgiBurlington-2025-AdrianDavis-TheSoundOfSilence-Part2

20:54 Thank you so much Pastor Murray, greetings brethren here as well as brethren online.

21:02 And speaking of our brethren online, I did, listen to last week's sermon and service just to remind myself what I discussed to continue this week and where I left off, and I just want to start just by thanking, Deacon Jan and the whole tech team for what they've done.

21:20 We've really struggled trying to do a better job of providing a service to our brethren who are online and it's just a lot of work and coming in today and.

21:29 While listening to the sermon this morning and the service and the music, everything from last week and then coming in today and just seeing how beautifully organized everything is here just wanna say a heartfelt thanks.

21:40 It's a lot of work and really appreciate your commitment and for the brethren who are online if you do appreciate it, please drop Deacon Jan a message on behalf of the tech team and he'll convey your gratitude to the rest of the team or even on our chat if you can do that.

21:57 Last week I gave the sermon, the sound of silence, part one.

22:02 Well, it became part one when I didn't want to rush through the last part where they speak of the prophets, and I said last week that the silence, the the silence has a sound.

22:14 And that sound if we actually let's go to 1 Corinthians 5 1 Corinthians 5, where we were last week to hear the sound of silence.

22:23 And Pastor Murray gave us the metaphor of report cards.

22:30 And this being that the time of report cards coming into unleavened bread, it's a great way of thinking about this that this is report card time and we need to see not how we think we're doing but how does Jesus Christ evaluate us not just individually but collectively.

22:47 And Deacon Jan then followed up with a sermon where he talked about unleavened living.

22:53 And showed us through Deuteronomy this is something that we have to investigate and search out to make sure that we are in fact leading unleavened lives here in 1 Corinthians 5 and verse 1.

23:06 It was reported commonly.

23:07 Everybody knew.

23:08 It's reported commonly.

23:10 That there is fornication pornea, sexual immorality among you.

23:14 The saints of God and such Pornea as is not so much as named among the Gentiles that one should have his father's wife openly in the worship service among God's saints.

23:30 This is what was happening and what I was saying is this is the sound of silence.

23:37 There's clear Len in the congregation, but nobody speaks up.

23:42 And that silence actually has a sound.

23:46 And if we look at verse 6, you'll hear the sound of silence.

23:50 Your glorying is not good.

23:54 The the the sound that you're making is a hypocritical sound.

23:58 Yes, you're singing the hymns, you're worshiping God, you're preaching, you're praising, but all of that is notwithstanding.

24:06 Because you're operating within the sound of silence.

24:10 Don't you know that a little Len leavens the whole lump?

24:15 This is something we need to be very, very careful about.

24:19And so I shared last week how I heard this music in my head, and I was wondering what is that song?

24:24And I finally found out it's this song called The Sound of Silence.

24:29And when this song was written and released, it was a failure.

24:37It it went nowhere.

24:39It was these two Jewish lads who could sing and write music.

24:45They met in junior school in the 50s in Queens, New York and, and they sang this song with an acoustic guitar, was a folk song.

24:55And it just, it was a failure when it was released in 1964.

24:59A producer heard it and thought, no, there's potential here and did a remix, and it's that remix that actually got that that caught my attention.

25:08It was like an interesting musical sound and then when it was re-released in this remix it took off it went to number one and around the world.

25:16But I mentioned that they were Jewish lads.

25:20Because the poetry in this song, in my humble opinion, is profound.

25:28And perhaps being brought up with the awareness of the Bible, the Hebrew Bible, that could have informed the art.

25:38Regardless, what I did say is that sometimes these artists have a way of seeing the human condition.

25:47In expressing the human condition, whether through song or through art or through any.

25:54Artistic expression To give us insight that we wouldn't normally have and so I said let's use this particular song as a jumping off point into the scripture where clearly they are seeing something of the human condition that reflects a biblical understanding.

26:14And they say some of the key themes of this song are silence and isolation.

26:21That many, many people are alone.

26:24And suffering in a lones and just because we congregate that doesn't resolve the loneliness why?

26:32Because we can congregate in pretense.

26:35I can I can come and and present an image to you.

26:39Which is not who I really am.

26:41I'm inauthentic.

26:43And so I remain lonely and you cannot connect with me because I'm not allowing you to.

26:47I'm not showing you who I am.

26:50It was a critique of society and how superficial society is.

26:56And it it contrasted the themes of darkness and light.

27:02And the search for meaning.

27:05At the end of part one.

27:08As Deacon Jen then led us in the rest of the worship.

27:12He made a statement, an interesting statement, and I think you remember Deacon Jan.

27:16He said, you know, as I was listening to the sermon.

27:19He said I thought of Donald Trump.

27:22He's not my favorite person.

27:24I'm quoting Jan, not my favorite person, but he's authentic.

27:29He is who he is and is consistent whether you look at him in one, atmosphere or surrounding or another, he's just the same guy.

27:39He just says what's on his mind and in fact if you go back decades and listen to him being interviewed, he's saying the same thing.

27:47So, almost half the country.

27:51America hates this man with a passion.

27:56He's the son of Satan.

27:58Tens of millions of people hate him with a passion.

28:02Let's just for argument's sake.

28:06Give credence to their criticism.

28:09For argument's sake, let's say he is the son of Satan.

28:14Let it not be said That he has more integrity and more authenticity than the sons of God.

28:24He doesn't know scripture the way we know scripture.

28:27If somebody was to follow us around and see Adrian in the congregational setting, see Adrian at home and see Adrian at work, in following me around, would they see three different Adrians?

28:41Or if somebody from the service, from my brethren came to see me at work.

28:47Or a customer came here to join me in services or at my home, would they see the same Adrian?

28:54Because Donald Trump being the son of Satan, according to many, according to tens of millions, he's the same person.

29:02Could it be said, and, and I think there's two ways that he exemplifies authenticity.

29:09And integrity.

29:11With all his flaws, I'm, I'm accepting he's, he's the son of Satan.

29:15According to many But two ways he exemplifies authenticity that we should use to question ourselves.

29:23There's a saying that every man I meet is in some way my superior, and in that I endeavor to find out so that I may emulate him.

29:33So two ways.

29:35The first is If you ask Donald Trump a question, it doesn't matter who's in the audience, he's gonna tell you what he thinks.

29:45And it doesn't matter if you don't like the answer, he's gonna tell you what he thinks.

29:50This is a form of honesty.

29:52Do we have this?

29:54or depending on who's asking the question and the expression on their face, do I need to nuance my answer to try to please you because I don't want to upset you so I'm not gonna speak the truth, I may not lie outrightly.

30:10Technically you can't say I'm lying.

30:13But in the spirit of speaking truth, I'm misleading you.

30:18Is Donald Trump superior to us as Christians in that regard?

30:22In the second regard Repeatedly what I hear people say of this man.

30:30And I just heard it in the speech that he just gave, where they had a mother who lost her son, her 15 year old son to fentanyl, and she said everything he promised me he has delivered.

30:45When RFK Junior.

30:48 Came to to partner with him and collaborate with him.  
30:51 They told him don't trust this man get everything in writing.  
30:55 And RFK Junior says, I, we shook hands.  
30:58 And he delivered everything he promised to Myanmar.  
31:02 So in the sense that when he speaks, he does everything he can to fulfill his word.  
31:08 Is the son of Satan superior to us in this regard, or do words leave our mouth?  
31:13 Oh yeah, I'll do such and such, and we never do it.  
31:16, I, I think that as Christians, how much more when words come out of our mouth, we, we move heaven and earth to make sure if I promise you something.  
31:29 We don't even have to shake hands.  
31:31 The fact that I gave you my word, it's good.  
31:34 Why?  
31:34 Because the word left my mouth and I'm pursuing a life to emulate God.  
31:40 Let's go to Galatians one Galatians one.  
31:48 So let's ask ourselves the question in this report card period.  
31:54 If Jesus Christ were to give us a grade.  
31:57 In two aspects.  
32:00 Please tell me that we would surpass Donald Trump.  
32:04 The first is when someone asks us a question, we speak the truth.  
32:09 We're not men pleasers.  
32:12 And in the second aspect, when we say we're going to do something, if the words leave our lips, we do it.  
32:19 Galatians 1 And verse 10 Galatians 1 and verse 10.  
32:32 For do I now persuade men?  
32:35 Or God or I could say this, who am I trying to fool?  
32:40 Men or God?  
32:42 What, what, what comes out of my mouth?  
32:45 Or do I seek to please men?  
32:47 Am I a men pleaser?  
32:49 So, you just, depending on who I'm with, I behave differently and I speak differently.  
32:58 For if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.  
33:05 Well, how about that?  
33:09 What is our grade in speaking truth?  
33:13 in being truthful in being careful about the words that leave our mouth.  
33:19 If we are men pleasers, we cannot be servants of Christ.  
33:25 But I guarantee you brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man so the ability for Paul not to apologize for the gospel is rooted in integrity.  
33:39 This this is a man that he's just gonna speak the truth and we have we have the opportunity to build this integrity muscle every single day.  
33:50 And the more we speak.  
33:53 Untruthfully And untruthfully meaning we're shading the truth we're misleading or we are promising something we have no intention to keep it.  
34:04 The more we do this, the more atrophied the integrity muscle becomes.

34:10 So that when we have to preach the gospel in a critical moment, we just won't have the spiritual backbone.

34:16 It's by every day being truthful that when my life is on the line to preach the gospel, it doesn't matter.

34:23 I it's not, it's I'm not capable of of speaking untruthfully.

34:29 Matthew 5.

34:46 It's a whole study In itself, around the words that we speak.

34:54 But let me go to Matthew 5 and verse 34.

34:59 Instructions from the Lord Himself.

35:02 I say unto you, do not swear.

35:05 What does it mean to swear?

35:07 It means that the words that come out of my mouth, I'm guaranteeing you I'm, I'm, I'm giving you an oath I will fulfill this so it's the the intention is how good is my word.

35:17 And Christ says, don't swear.

35:20 Neither by heaven for its god's throne.

35:26 And then dropping down to verse 37, instead let your communication be, yeah, yeah, no, no.

35:36 For whatsoever is more than these comes of evil.

35:40 So, so let's be people.

35:41 I don't need to say, oh, I swear by God, I swear by I swear by heaven and and trying to convince you of how good my word is.

35:49 I said yes.

35:51 You asked me, I'm, I'm gonna do, I said yes, or I'll just tell you flat no.

35:56 No, I'm not gonna do that.

35:58 What I'm not gonna do is tell you yes and I really mean no.

36:01 I have no intention, but the words leave my mouth.

36:05 This makes me inferior to Donald Trump, who half the country believes is the son of Satan.

36:11 How can I, as a child of God, be inferior?

36:15 Matthew 12 Continue with instructions from our Lord.

36:39 Matthew 12 And verse, let's drop down to verse 36.

36:45 But I say unto you.

36:48 That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

36:57 This this really tells us how serious what we speak is an idle meaning a lazy word, a word that doesn't perform it it means that I say I'm going to do something but I don't actually do it.

37:11 That's an idle word.

37:13 We as Christians, how good is our yes?

37:17 How good is our no?

37:18 How good is our word.

37:20 For by your words you shall be justified.

37:25 And by your words you shall be condemned.

37:30 Again, when we think of the sound of silence.

37:34 We're talking about the absence of words.

37:39Or words that just boil down to theater.

37:43I'm saying I I'm, I'm playing a part.

37:46And I'm, I'm saying things that they, they, they that that there's, it's a script.

37:52Let's let's let's play church theater.

37:54Do you have your costume?

37:55I have mine.

37:57Everybody got their costumes on?

37:58Do you have your lines?

37:59Let's rehearse and let's play pretend.

38:02And God says, I'm gonna judge you by everything you say, the words that leave your mouth.

38:11Isaiah 45.

38:34We are children of God.

38:37What we speak matters.

38:39And we want to be like God.

38:41What does what does Christ say of the devil?

38:43He's the father of lies.

38:45Every deceit.

38:47Every shading of the truth.

38:50Every misleading but trying to be technically accurate.

38:55The father of all of that is the devil.

38:59Isaiah 45.

39:03God says of himself, how God describes Himself.

39:07I have sworn by myself.

39:11The word has gone out of my mouth in righteousness.

39:16If if we endeavor to be like God.

39:19Let us be like this.

39:21The, the word went out of my mouth.

39:23Now I'm bound.

39:27The word has gone out of my mouth in righteousness and shall not return.

39:31It's going to be performed that unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear, and this is why God can declare the end from the beginning.

39:40Jump, jump over to chapter 55.

39:44Chapter 55.

39:45Again, God describing Himself and his relationship with His word.

39:54It's amazing to say I'm a politician, everything he promised me he's he's done.

39:59And I hear this repeatedly of this politician.

40:02It, it cannot be that a politician is superior to a Christian.

40:07In the words that come out of our mouth.

40:09Let it, let, let not this be said of us.

40:13Let let us, let us examine Donald Trump's life and say, you said you'd do this and you didn't do it and yeah, whatever the excuse is still you said you were gonna do it, you didn't do it.

40:23Let it not be set up our lives that we said we were going to do something and we didn't do it.

40:28Isaiah 55 and verse 11.

40:32So shall my word be that goes forth out of my mouth.

40:38This is the way God speaks.

40:41The for that goes forth out of my mouth.

40:42It shall not return unto me empty.

40:47But it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

40:53So God doesn't speak vain words or idle words.

40:57We're human.

40:59We, we will speak vain words, but let it not be said that we did so deliberately, that it was in our power to fulfill our word, but we didn't do it.

41:07It might be, circumstances change and I'm unable to fulfill because I couldn't foresee the circum the changed circumstances, but let it not be that I'm, I'm, I'm of the character.

41:18That I say yes, I'll do such and such.

41:21And I don't do it or let it not be said that I'm of the character.

41:26That I require everything in writing so you you're giving me your word and I'm like, can you put that in writing?

41:33And the only reason I'm asking you to put it in writing is because I'm a dishonest person and I'm projecting my dishonesty onto you.

41:41If, if I, if my word is good and you say to me you're gonna do something, I accept it.

41:46If my word is good.

41:48But if I'm fundamentally dishonest, can you put that in writing?

41:54Let's go back to This poetry And and I think why I'm so fascinated by this poetry.

42:02Is We live in the age of postmodernism.

42:10And one of the manifest objectives of postmodernists is to destroy art and to destroy truth.

42:21Clearly we know it's to destroy truth, but it's also to destroy art.

42:25To make everything ugly.

42:28Why?

42:29Because art inspires when you see beautiful art you feel uplifted, you feel like you want to strive for perfection and excellence, so they want to surround us with ugliness and you know sometimes I'll go to the gym and and I'm working out and I'm listening to the the music they're playing and I'm like.

42:50Is this even music?

42:52How how do people listen to this?

42:54Well, this is the degrading of the human soul.

42:58When we hear music that is beautiful.

43:01It's inspiring.

43:02They want to remove this.

43:05And I think there's something to be said.

43:08For, for poetry.

43:12Verse one.

43:15And I'm just gonna just just for context I want to zero in on verse 5, but just for context, let me read the 1st 4 verses and please, hopefully you'll recall what we spoke about last week in terms of using them as jumping off point into the scriptures.

43:30 Hello darkness, my old familiar friend.  
43:35 I've come to talk with you again.  
43:37 I'm gonna speak in darkness.  
43:40 I can't speak in the light.  
43:42 I can't speak in public.  
43:44 Because a vision softly creeping left its seeds while I was sleeping.  
43:49 There's something there.  
43:50 There's some life there.  
43:53 And the vision that was planted in my brain still remains, but it's within the sound of silence.  
44:01 Let it not be said that God has given us something.  
44:04 There's a uniqueness that you have.  
44:06 There's a giftedness that you have, that's yours, that God didn't give to you to sit on.  
44:12 He gave it to you to express.  
44:15 But are you in an environment where you feel you cannot express it?  
44:19 And you operate within the sound of silence.  
44:22 He's a victim of the very thing he's pointing out.  
44:26 Verse 2.  
44:27 In restless dreams, I walked alone.  
44:32 Instead of having a time of rest, it's restless, and he's alone.  
44:37 Narrow streets of cobblestone, he's he's hemmed in.  
44:40 Beneath the halo of a street lamp, I turned my collar to the cold and damp, so I, I'm the, the, I'm turning to the future, and it's cold and damp.  
44:50 There's nothing to look forward to, but I'm under this light.  
44:54 When my eyes were stabbed by the flash of a neon light, this light is, my eyes are not used to light.  
45:01 My eyes are used to darkness, and so they've been stabbed by light.  
45:07 This light split the night.  
45:09 The night cannot overcome the light.  
45:11 The light overcomes the darkness.  
45:13 It split the night.  
45:15 And touched The sound of silence.  
45:19 This is amazing poetry.  
45:21 It touched, it it it made it known, this is darkness.  
45:26 Verse 3.  
45:28 And in the naked light.  
45:30 I saw 10,000 people, maybe more.  
45:35 People talking without speaking, people hearing without listening.  
45:39 How much more true is this today than in the 1960s?  
45:44 People writing songs that voices never shared.  
45:49 There's some artistic truthful expression, it never gets shared.  
45:54 Why would this truthful artistic expression never get shared?  
45:59 No one dared.  
46:01 Disturb the sound of silence.

46:04 And now what I suggested last week is that Levin operates, Deacon Jan said it's a chemical process that once it starts it can't reverse.

46:15 But it operates in silence.

46:17 It operates in darkness.

46:19 And so no one dared disturb the sound of silence.

46:24 Let's all play pretend.

46:26 And don't call me out.

46:28 That would be so uncomfortable if you call out my pretense.

46:31 So it just operates.

46:33 No one dare disturb the.

46:35 I have, I, I, I'm inspired to say something, but I dare not disturb.

46:40 The sound of silence.

46:42 So let's all just sing hymns and glorify God in hypocrisy.

46:47 Fools, said I, verse 4.

46:51 You do not know.

46:53 Silence like a cancer grows.

46:58 It's like Levin.

47:00 It doesn't stay contained.

47:03 It becomes part of the the culture and goes into the marrow of the bones.

47:11 Hear my words that I might teach you.

47:15 Take my arms that I might reach you, but my words like silent raindrops fell.

47:24 And echoed in the wells of silence.

47:28 this is quite something.

47:31 But that was last week.

47:34 I wanted to focus this week on this last verse 5.

47:40 And the people bowed and prayed.

47:44 To the neon god they made.

47:48 And you know, if this picture you see the people at the table.

47:54 Years gone by, if you were at a restaurant and you saw people bowing their heads like this, well, clearly they're saying grace.

48:02 Not anymore.

48:04 Now you see them bowing to the neon god that they've made all in this sound of silence all disconnected from each other when they should be breaking bread and enjoying each other.

48:17 And the sign flashed out its warning.

48:19 There's a warning now.

48:22 In the words that it was forming.

48:25 Then the sign said, the words of the prophets are written.

48:32 So they're not without warning.

48:35 Even though they're consumed with their neon god and these people, if they do manage to reproduce, they'll offer their children to this neon god and from childhood, the the the the baby will learn to worship this neon god and be disconnected from humanity.

48:52 And yet they're not without warning.

48:55 How do we know they're not without warning?

48:57He tells us that the words of the prophets, it's a warning, it's a warning message from the prophets.

49:04And the sign tells you the words of the prophets are written.

49:07Where are they written?

49:09On the subway walls, so if you look at the next slide here.

49:18It's a, it's a it's an area.

49:22The subway.

49:24Is a high traffic area.

49:27Lots of to and fro, lots of people coming and going.

49:31And there's a clear sign on the wall.

49:33You're not without excuse, or sorry, you're, you're without excuse, you're not without warning.

49:38In this high traffic area, the words of the profits are posted, and it's not just on the subway walls it's also in the tenement halls.

49:48Again, the tenement being a high traffic area.

49:53And right in the halls of this high traffic area.

49:56The words of the prophets are there.

49:59But these are not the only high traffic areas where the words of the profits are posted.

50:05It's also posted.

50:09In the sound of silence.

50:12The words of the prophets are among us.

50:16And when Jezebel seduces his servants, that happens in the sound of silence.

50:24And in the warning of the prophets, we are without excuse.

50:29The prophets warn us that silence like a cancer grows.

50:36What is this warning from the prophets?

50:40What, what is the word of the prophets that's written in the sound of silence?

50:46That we have no excuse.

50:49Because the sound of silence is a high traffic area.

50:53Just like the subway Just like the tenements, let's go to Mac Mica 7.

50:59You can take the slide down.

51:00Thanks.

51:01Mica 7 Mica 7 And we'll just begin at verse one.

51:21Woe is me, says the prophet.

51:25For I am as when they have gathered the summer fruits.

51:30As the great gleanings of the vintage, there is no cluster to eat.

51:37My soul desired the first ripe fruit, so this is like after the harvest when there's nothing left, it's almost like a a a desolation.

51:47This is what the prophet says he's like.

51:49Why is he like this?

51:51Verse 2.

51:52The good man is perished out of the land.

51:56And there is none upright among men.

52:00They all lie in wait for blood.

52:03They hunt every man his neighbor, his brother with a net.

52:06This is prophetic.

52:09This is future.

52:11And the good man is gone.

52:15And this is the warning of the prophets.

52:19And last week I mentioned, and I'll mention again.

52:22COVID Was a dress rehearsal.

52:27And we saw brother betray brother.

52:30We saw a brother side with the state, the communist state.

52:35To take freedom away from brother turning each other in.

52:40Stopping each other from fellowshiping.

52:42Why?

52:43Because the state said so.

52:45That was just a rehearsal.

52:49For the times that are coming.

52:51And it may not seem like these times are coming now because things have slowed down, but the scripture cannot be broken.

52:56So time is coming when we need courage we need backbone, we need agape love for one another.

53:03That's why I'm so grateful that we could serve here and trust each other.

53:08But it wasn't the same everywhere.

53:12Brother and brother turned against brother.

53:14Black Lives Matter was another dress rehearsal.

53:18Where suddenly brethren turned against each other over race.

53:24Instigated by politicians and the brethren of Christ turned against each other.

53:31And this is just rehearsals.

53:34And if we fail in the rehearsals, Jeremiah or God says through Jeremiah, if you've run with the footmen.

53:40And the footmen of wear you, how will you run with the horses?

53:45So if we failed during the rehearsals, how will we fare during the real thing?

53:54So something changes in society.

53:57And the good man disappears, and the hypocrisy comes forward.

54:02There is none upright among men.

54:04They all lie in wait for blood.

54:05Why would they do that?

54:06Because the state told them to.

54:08They hunt every man his brother with a net.

54:10I've got to turn you in.

54:11Why?

54:11Because the state told me to.

54:14That they may do evil with both hands earnestly.

54:18This is the covenant community, by the way, this is not speaking of the world.

54:22The prince asks.

54:23The leader asks, and the judge asks for a reward, and the great man, he utters his mischievous desire, and so they wrap it up.

54:32 They do whatever he asks them to do.

54:35 The best of them is like a thorn.

54:39 The most upright is sharper than a thorn hedge.

54:44 The day of your watchmen and your visitation comes, now shall be their perplexity.

54:51 Trust you not in a friend.

54:54 Put no confidence in a guide.

54:56 Keep the doors of your mouth from her that lies in your bosom.

55:00 This is the natural state.

55:03 Without the Holy Spirit, this is, this is where we are.

55:07 And so brethren, we need to be this this is the the warning from the prophets this is what's coming.

55:12 And we need to be building the spiritual backbone and the agape and the commitment that we're not in this category.

55:21 My yes is yes, your yes is yes.

55:24 All right, we can't meet here next week.

55:28 This is where we'll meet.

55:30 Do not disclose this meeting place.

55:33 Yeah, I will not disclose the meeting place.

55:35 And then the state threatens me and I give up the meeting place.

55:39 Because my year is not yeah.

55:41 Versus the state threatens me and it's not the, the word has gone from my mouth.

55:45 I gave my word to my brother that I'm not saying a word.

55:50 And it doesn't then matter what pressure the state puts on me, the word went from my mouth, and I have been practicing truthfulness.

55:57 I've been practicing that whatever I say, I'm now bound.

56:01 Why why did I say I would do that thing?

56:03 Now I have to do it, because the word went from my mouth.

56:06 Or you ask me a question and I just tell you the truth.

56:09 I'm not looking for how you react.

56:13 That way We might not be able to be trust in a friend.

56:16 We may not be able to have confidence in a guide, even her that lies in our bosom, we might not be able to trust, but with the Holy Spirit and with this, this integrity muscle developed, we will be able to trust each other and, and, Malachi 3 speaks of that.

56:32 That these will be like the jewels in the father's crown.

56:37 The son dishonors the father.

56:39 The daughter rises up against her mother, and Christ prophesized, this is what's coming.

56:43 The daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law, a man's enemies are the men of his own house.

56:49 These are the words of the prophets.

56:51 And if we operate in the sound of silence, we will fall victim to these prophecies.

56:57 If we get rid of the leaven, if we put a spotlight on the leaven and remove it.

57:03 Then we will be that that jewel that the father is looking for.

57:06 There is always a faithful remnant always.

57:08 There's always a faithful remnant.

57:10 We are striving to be that faithful remnant.

57:13 Let's look at another prophet Jeremiah.

57:21 So Micah says he's, he's cursed.

57:25 He's he's just all alone.

57:27 No one he can trust.

57:29 And the best of them are like thorns.

57:32 What does Jeremiah say?

57:33 What is the word of the prophet Jeremiah?

57:38 That is antithetical to the sound of silence.

57:43 Jeremiah 9.

57:48 And listen to the prophet in verse one.

57:50 Oh, that my head were waters and my eyes a fountain of tears that I might weep day and night for the slaying of the daughter of my people.

58:03 This is a warning.

58:04 This is a dire warning.

58:06 God's own people are subject to slaughter.

58:11 And and this warning is within the sound of silence.

58:15 Oh that I had in the wilderness a lodging place for traveling men.

58:21 That I might leave my people and go from them.

58:24 What what's happened to your people, Jeremiah?

58:26 Why, why do you want to leave them?

58:28 For they are all adulterers, an assembly, a congregation of treacherous men.

58:36 Well, how does that happen?

58:38 That happens, brethren, a little leaven leavens the whole lump.

58:43 That happens is the assembly of the people of God, the community of God they didn't start out this way they started out with the law, they started out with righteousness and integrity and then they started to slip.

58:57 Then they started to to tolerate a little leaven here, a little leaven there, a little len out of my mouth here, a little leaven out of my mouth there, and all of a sudden.

59:08 Behaviors begin to change and new behaviors begin to creep in and it's all tolerated within the sound of silence.

59:16 Verse 3 they bend their tongues like the bow for this is incredible, poetry and and metaphor here.

59:23 They bend their tongues like they're bows for lies.

59:28 These are children of the devil.

59:30 They didn't start out that way.

59:32 They've become this way.

59:34 But they are not valiant for the truth upon the earth.

59:38 Could this be said of the people of God?

59:42 That we are so practiced in in deceit.

59:45 That when it's time for us to speak we can we can lie with precision we we kind of know how to lie.

59:52 But we're not valiant for the truth.

59:55 Why?

59:56 Because the government started to flex its muscle, and we got scared.  
1:00:01 For they proceed from evil to evil.  
1:00:03 That's how Levin grows.  
1:00:05 And they know not me, says the Lord.  
1:00:08 It's theater.  
1:00:09 It looks like we know him.  
1:00:10 We're saying all the right thing, but our glory is not good.  
1:00:14 We actually don't know him.  
1:00:16 He is a god of law.  
1:00:18 Take you heed every one of his neighbor.  
1:00:21 And trust you not in any brother, for every brother will utterly supplant and every neighbor will walk with slanders.  
1:00:29 This is the warning of the prophets.  
1:00:32 If we allow Levin to grow, to multiply, here's our future.  
1:00:39 And they will deceive one his neighbor.  
1:00:42 And will not speak the truth.  
1:00:43 They're not now they're not capable.  
1:00:45 It, it started out with a little bit of deceit, and now it takes over.  
1:00:49 We, we can't trust each other.  
1:00:51 We, we, I think they say of communism, tell me if this is right, something along the lines of.  
1:00:58 They, they lie to us.  
1:01:00 We know they're lying to us.  
1:01:02 They know that we know that they're lying to us, but we continue to play the game.  
1:01:07 This, this, this, this is, this is communism.  
1:01:11 And our governments lie to us.  
1:01:14 It's so unusual for a politician to speak truth.  
1:01:17 We expect them to break their promises.  
1:01:21 What about us with each other?  
1:01:23 Is your yeah yeah is my yeah, yeah, no, OK, I might hurt your feelings, but I'm saying no.  
1:01:29 Cause I'd rather say no than say yes, but not mean it.  
1:01:38 They will deceive one his neighbor and will not speak the truth.  
1:01:43 Speaking of the covenant community.  
1:01:45 They have taught their tongue to speak lies.  
1:01:49 It's, it's something that's developed.  
1:01:53 And weary themselves to commit iniquity.  
1:01:58 By God's definition, clearly from a human persp we humanly we've put a narrative around what we're doing that what we're doing feels good and we have reasons for it, but from God's perspective it's iniquity.  
1:02:11 It's like this whole thing where you need to bow down, get on your knees, and admit that a man can be a woman.  
1:02:19 And a woman can be a man.  
1:02:21 You know you're lying.

1:02:23I know I'm asking you to lie.  
1:02:25It's obvious.  
1:02:26It's not about that.  
1:02:26It's about power.  
1:02:28Will you bow to me?  
1:02:30I'm the politician and I say a man can be a woman.  
1:02:33Will you get down on your knees and say yes?  
1:02:35I say 2 + 2 is 5.  
1:02:38Will you say yes?  
1:02:39Because once you say yes, now I say bow down and worship the devil.  
1:02:44You've already given up your integrity.  
1:02:50They have taught their tongue to speak lies, and they weary themselves to commit iniquity.  
1:02:58Your habitation is in the midst of deceit.  
1:03:01Through deceit they refuse to know me, says the Lord.  
1:03:05Therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts, Behold, I will melt them.  
1:03:11This is the warning of the prophets.  
1:03:14This is what we need this, this is what we have to be aware of this is what Thaatyra needed to be aware of.  
1:03:20You allow Jezebel to teach my servants, I will destroy them.  
1:03:26And try them, for how shall I, how shall I do for the daughter of my people?  
1:03:32Their tongue is as an arrow shot out.  
1:03:36It speaks deceit.  
1:03:38One speaks peaceably to his neighbor with his mouth, but in heart he lays his weight.  
1:03:45Can this happen in the Church of God?  
1:03:48And what I have to say to you is, you know, it's already happening.  
1:03:51It's here.  
1:03:52We have this len.  
1:03:54I, I'm certainly aware.  
1:03:56Of In in the Church of God.  
1:04:01People speaking Peacefully To their neighbor.  
1:04:07And yet there's Deceit In the heart this should never be.  
1:04:14Should never be It should never be that I have, I require you to give me something in writing.  
1:04:21Just give me your yes.  
1:04:22I'm good.  
1:04:23You said yes, I'm good.  
1:04:25And vice versa.  
1:04:28Shall I not visit them for these things, says the Lord.  
1:04:32Shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?  
1:04:37For the mountains will I take up a weeping and wailing, and for the habitations of the wilderness a lamentation.  
1:04:45Why the land suffers because they are burned up so that none can pass through them.  
1:04:52Neither can men hear the voice of the cattle.

1:04:54Both the fowl of the heaven and the beast are fled.

1:04:58They are gone, so this is, this is devastation.

1:05:02And God says, I'll make Jerusalem heaps and a den of dragons, and I'll make the cities of Judah desolate without an inhabitant, and this extends brethren.

1:05:11To us as the first fruits, the Holy Spirit children of God, we're included in these judgments.

1:05:17Who is the wise man that may understand this?

1:05:20And who is he to whom the mouth of the Lord has spoken?

1:05:24That he may declare it Speak up.

1:05:28For what the land perishes and is burned up like a wilderness that none passes through, the Lord says, because they've forsaken my law, which I have set before them and have not obeyed my voice, neither walked therein, but have walked after the imagination of their own heart after Baa, which their fathers taught them.

1:05:49So brethren, we really do need a culture.

1:05:54Where we are comfortable speaking up and that's why I really do appreciate the times that we have here to just sit with each other and talk and be who we are and and and speak up and be real and be authentic.

1:06:06But in addition to that, Let's make sure that we not only speak the truth in in in sort of reactively so I can speak the truth reactively, meaning you ask me a question I tell you the truth.

1:06:19This is reactive truth but as God's children we must also speak proactive truth, meaning if I said I'm going to do something, the words have left my mouth.

1:06:28I'm now bound to do that thing.

1:06:31This is who I need to be and who who you need to be with me.

1:06:36Look at 2 Corinthians 10.

1:06:54This deleaning process that we're speaking of.

1:07:01Yes, there's a physical aspect to it.

1:07:03We're going to deal level in our homes we're gonna de-love in the hall, deal up in our vehicles, deal up in our quarters.

1:07:09So yes, there's a physical aspect to this, but it's pointing to a spiritual reality.

1:07:16We are in a spiritual battle.

1:07:19There is spiritual Len creeping in trying to stifle our spiritual growth in life, and this is what we need to understand we're a part of.

1:07:332 Corinthians 10.

1:07:35And verse 2.

1:07:37I'm begging you.

1:07:39I'm begging you.

1:07:41That I may not be bold when I am present with that confidence wherewith I think to be bold against some.

1:07:50Paul did not operate in the sound of silence.

1:07:54The Corinthians did.

1:07:57The the the the churches other than Smyrna and Philadelphia, they did.

1:08:03We must not We see it, we call it.

1:08:08And of course, depending on the situation.

1:08:12There may be some tact required.

1:08:15 We're not gonna be like a bull in a china shop.

1:08:18 But we're not going to conspire to operate in silence.

1:08:22 I'm begging you that I may not be bold when I am present with that confidence wherewith I think to be bold against them.

1:08:29 You're tolerating them.

1:08:30 I won't tolerate them.

1:08:32 Which think of us as if we walked according to the flesh.

1:08:36 So they're projecting onto us.

1:08:38 That we're operating on a fleshly level.

1:08:41 No, Paul's saying I'm coming in.

1:08:42 This is a spiritual battle.

1:08:44 I'm coming in from a spiritual perspective, for though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh.

1:08:51 This, this the leveling process is a spiritual process, and yet we're here in the flesh.

1:08:57 But the battle is spiritual.

1:09:00 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds.

1:09:09 God will give us this power, casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God.

1:09:17 So this de-leaning process is about not being puffed up, and anything that's exalting itself above and against the knowledge of God, we're pulling it down, and more often than not, this is in the imagination.

1:09:30 Things are not real, they're just real in our heads.

1:09:32 They're the stories we're telling ourselves and because we won't speak, these stories are fueled they're they're they're nourished.

1:09:40 It's like, instead of watering the flowers we're watering the weeds and then we're putting fertilizer on the weeds and it's just not real.

1:09:47 If we could just have a real conversation, it's like, oh OK, but I see where you're coming from.

1:09:52 Instead of living in my imagination.

1:09:54 We're gonna cast down these imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God and bring into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.

1:10:04 And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

1:10:13 Let's look at Philippians Chapter 3 Philippians 3.

1:10:31 Philippians was the first Bible study we ever did.

1:10:35 And and what we realized when we did this study was that the instructions were plural.

1:10:42 It was to the whole congregation we, we, we don't just operate individually we're a body we're members of each other, we're members of Christ's body.

1:10:52 And so this deleaning process must be seen as members of the body.

1:10:57 Philippians 3 and verse 1, finally my brethren rejoice in the Lord, to write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it's safe.

1:11:07 I'm gonna do, even though I'm repeating myself, I'm not gonna be silent.

1:11:11 Beware of dogs.

1:11:13 Beware of evil workers, beware of the concision.

1:11:17So we're not without threat and danger.  
1:11:23We just have to be aware of it and speak up.  
1:11:26So Thaayra.  
1:11:29Jezebel influenced the teachers in such a way that they brought Levin, the whole congregation was taken over by Levin.  
1:11:38We can't, we have to be careful.  
1:11:41We have to be precise, this is a a spiritual battle that we're in.  
1:11:46Chapter 4.  
1:11:48And I think we have a way.  
1:11:50Of separating.  
1:11:53Doctrine from instruction.  
1:11:57That if I say to you doctrine, what's the first thing that comes to your mind?  
1:12:01Typically it's booklets.  
1:12:03It's it's sort of theories and concepts.  
1:12:07What we don't think of his doctrine is, hey, stop committing fornication.  
1:12:12Stop visiting pornographic websites.  
1:12:15This is doctrine.  
1:12:16This is good doctrine.  
1:12:18We think doctrine is the Trinity is false.  
1:12:21Yeah, that that is doctrine, but doctrine is everything.  
1:12:24Ephesians is doctrine.  
1:12:26The first half is more theoretical, the second half is practical.  
1:12:31So here Philippians 4 and verse 1.  
1:12:34Therefore, my brethren, dearly beloved and longed for my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved.  
1:12:44Here's good doctrine.  
1:12:46I'm begging Yodius, and I'm begging Sintiki.  
1:12:49That they be of the same mind in the Lord.  
1:12:52Stop this conflict.  
1:12:54And I'm not only begging them.  
1:12:56I'm begging you also true yoke fellow, fellow servant, help those women.  
1:13:03Which labored me in the gospel with me in the gospel with Clement also and with other fellow laborers whose names are in the book of life.  
1:13:12This is good doctrine.  
1:13:14Don't don't just think well I'm good I don't care what's happening over there no what's happening over there is part of the body and if one part of the body suffers the whole body suffers so jump in and help out.  
1:13:26Zephaniah 3.  
1:13:29Another prophet We know brethren, even more so than ancient Israel they knew, but we know even more so.  
1:14:07Iniquity will be punished.  
1:14:11God will not have iniquity in the kingdom.  
1:14:14So we, we cannot be engaged in iniquity and think, oh yes, see you in the kingdom, brother, see you in the kingdom, sister.

1:14:20We need to get this out of our lives.

1:14:22And here in Zephaniah 3, what does the prophet say?

1:14:24Verse 11.

1:14:26In that day Shall you not be ashamed for all your doings, O Israel, wherein you have transgressed against me?

1:14:36For then I will take away out of the midst of you them that rejoice in your pride.

1:14:42God will remove the leaven.

1:14:43So if you're puffed up, he said, I'm going to take you out.

1:14:46And you shall no more be haughty because of my holy mountain.

1:14:51I'm gonna put a stop to this pride and this arrogance, feeling like, oh, we're the people of God.

1:14:56We're so special, and now we can be arrogant.

1:14:58No, God's I'm gonna remove that Levin.

1:15:01However, he says in verse 12, I will also leave in the midst of you an afflicted and poor people.

1:15:09There's always a faithful remnant, and often that faithfulness comes through affliction.

1:15:15I will leave in you in the midst of you and afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the name of the Lord.

1:15:23In verse 13, the remnant, there's always a remnant.

1:15:28The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity nor speak lies.

1:15:34This is what God is looking for.

1:15:36It cannot be that we speak untruthfully and we think God is looking for us.

1:15:41God is gonna celebrate us when we're not like him.

1:15:45When God says something, it cannot be a vain word, but he warns us that we will be judged by every word.

1:15:53Every vain word that comes out of our mouths.

1:15:56And so he's looking for a people, and he's going to have a people that do not speak lies.

1:16:03Neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth.

1:16:06That's what he's looking for.

1:16:08And this is on a physical level.

1:16:09This is like this is the covenant physical covenant people.

1:16:13We'll get here, how much more us now who are who are being recruited to teach.

1:16:18For they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make them afraid.

1:16:23This is the prophetic warning.

1:16:27And in the sound of silence, a highly trafficked area we all fundamentally know and I'm reminded of a sermon Pastor Murray gave around the conscience.

1:16:38And how once the conscience is educated, it has to be educated, but once it's educated, it's teaching us, it's telling us.

1:16:48And if we're sitting in the sound of silence, guaranteed our conscience is bothering us.

1:16:53And it's bothering us for a reason.

1:16:55We need to speak up.

1:16:59Ephesians 4 And then we'll conclude In Zechariah 8.

1:17:06Ephesians 4 Ephesians 4 is good doctrine.

1:17:21Ephesians 4 And verse 25.

1:17:27Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor and and again what I'm suggesting here.

1:17:39Is that this truth and putting away lying is on two different levels and again let's just for for argument's sake let's let's all agree together just for argument's sake whether you believe this or not, half the country, half of America does and people around the world believe it as well certainly in Canada they believe it.

1:17:56Donald Trump is the son of Satan.

1:17:58He's the worst human being that has ever lived.

1:18:01And and the fact that he hasn't been assassinated yet, I don't know how this hasn't happened because the hatred for him is intense.

1:18:09Therefore, if he's the son of Satan.

1:18:13Let it not be said that he has more integrity than we do.

1:18:17If we are the sons of God.

1:18:20And what we see from him is two aspects of integrity.

1:18:26One is when he's asked the question.

1:18:28He'll just tell you what he thinks.

1:18:31And you might not like it, and he may be ridiculed and and just scorned.

1:18:37He just speaks.

1:18:39He answers the question as truthfully as he can.

1:18:42That's one aspect of not lying.

1:18:45The other aspect is repeatedly we hear people say everything he promised me he has fulfilled.

1:18:54He he follows through this it's very strange for a politician, he follows through on what he says.

1:19:00So there's reactive truth and there's proactive truth.

1:19:04Reactive truth when we're asked the question, do we just speak the truth.

1:19:08Proactive truth when we say we're going to do something, are we bound by our word that the words have gone out of my mouth.

1:19:17I'm now bound to do it.

1:19:20So put away lying on these two dimensions and speak every man truth with his neighbor, for we're members one of another.

1:19:31Verse 27.

1:19:32Don't give place to the devil.

1:19:35And verse 28.

1:19:37Let him that steel steal no more, but rather let him labor, working with his hands the thing which is good that he may have to give to him that needs.

1:19:47Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth.

1:19:52None.

1:19:53None.

1:19:54Everything that proceeds out of our mouth is clean.

1:19:58It's not corrupt.

1:20:00It's our yes is yes or no is no.

1:20:03Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying that it may minister grace unto the hearers if we are a people.

1:20:15That our word is not good.

1:20:19And we don't call each other out.

1:20:22We're operating in the sound of silence.

1:20:25This is, I know you're lying or you know I'm lying.

1:20:27I know you know I'm lying, and we just played this theater.

1:20:32No, let's be people that wow, we're just this this community.

1:20:37That our word is good.

1:20:40Let's conclude, brethren.

1:20:42With the words of one of the prophets in Zechariah 8.

1:20:51So again We were looking at this.

1:20:55Incredible poetry The sound of silence, even just the title.

1:21:01How does silence make a sound?

1:21:03And I think there's something here that has helped us perhaps look at the scriptures from an angle that I certainly might not have.

1:21:12So I hope that you appreciate the perspective as well.

1:21:16That Levin operates in silence.

1:21:21And we have to speak up.

1:21:23And we have to be people who have pure communication like God.

1:21:27Zechariah 8 will conclude here in verse 16.

1:21:33These are the things that you shall do.

1:21:36Speak you every man the truth to his neighbor.

1:21:38Let's, let's build that muscle.

1:21:41Speak you every man the truth to his neighbor.

1:21:42Execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates and let none of you imagine evil in your hearts against his neighbor.

1:21:52And love no false oath.

1:21:56We just can't stand it.

1:21:58And and we're a people that our politicians can lie to us and it's OK we don't mind we we should be we just despise this because we're so committed to words being truthful whatever comes out of our mouth and we expect the same of others love no false oath for all these things, all these are things that I hate, says the Lord and based on the word of this prophet, I think it's safe for us to say.

1:22:28That God hates the sound of silence.