

## 15- The Eloquent Orator

We find in the third chapter of Isaiah that the Self-Existent, Eternal Sovereign Controller of all people will take away the eloquent orator. This one is very, very serious and affects most of the citizens of many nations and the members of many churches. Strong's Concordance of the Bible tells us the Hebrew word translated "eloquent" is a root word that means to separate mentally (or distinguish), that is, (generally) to understand. The Hebrew word translated "eloquent" is also used in the Old Testament to refer to a person who is discreet (Genesis 41:33 & 39), wise and understanding (Deuteronomy 1:13 & 4:6). It is also used to refer to a person who considers past experiences (Isaiah 1:3; Deuteronomy 32:7 & 32:29), a nation who receives the instructions of God (Deuteronomy 32:19), or a person who perceives what God is doing (1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 3:8).

Barnes, in "Barnes Notes on the Old Testament" explains the Hebrew word translated "orator" denotes one who influences another and persuades them in any way, as an orator does by argument or appeal.

When the Lord removed "the Glory of the Lord" from Israel (Ezekiel 10:4, 10:18 and 11:23), He removed from them (1) the ability to perceive the chastisement He was bringing upon them and (2) the ability to receive and understand the instructions of God (Isaiah 6:8-10). No matter how good a person was at persuasion, they were unable to reach the people of that nation (Jeremiah 7:27). The Glory of the Lord or the sevenfold power of the Holy Spirit includes the Spirit of Understanding (Isaiah 11:1-2). The Spirit of Understanding gives a person the ability to understand (1) God's Word, (2) God's will and (3) God's way. Without the illumination of the Spirit of Understanding, the people were unable to comprehend what the person was sharing. Isaiah recorded the results of the Lord taking away the eloquent orator from the nation of Israel in the sixth chapter.

*<sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" <sup>9</sup>He said, "Go and tell this people: "Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving." <sup>10</sup>Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed". Isaiah 6:8-10 (New International Version)*

Jesus Christ experienced the results of this during His earthly ministry even though He operated through unlimited Holy Spirit power (John 3:34).

*“<sup>37</sup>Even after Jesus had done all these miraculous signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him. <sup>38</sup>This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet: “Lord, who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?” <sup>39</sup>For this reason they could not believe, because, as Isaiah says elsewhere: <sup>40</sup>“He has blinded their eyes and deadened their hearts, so they can neither see with their eyes, nor understand with their hearts, nor turn—and I would heal them.” John 12:37-40 (New International Version)*

Even His own disciples could not understand some of the things Jesus Christ taught (Luke 9:45; Luke 18:34; John 12:16). Those who sat at the feet of Jesus Christ could not comprehend some of the things God, in human flesh, taught until they received special power to do so from the Holy Spirit. It is important to note that they received the Spirit of Understanding about 47 days before the day of Pentecost! “<sup>45</sup> **Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,** <sup>46</sup> And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: <sup>47</sup> And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> And ye are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with **power** from on high. Luke 24:45-49 (King James Version)

How did Jesus Christ "**open their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures**"? “<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on the first day of the week, the followers were together. The doors were locked, because they were afraid of the Jews. Then Jesus came and stood right in the middle of them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The followers were thrilled when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Then Jesus said again, “Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, I now send you.” <sup>22</sup> **After he said this, he breathed on them and said, “Receive Holy Spirit power** (there is no Greek definite article-please see "The Power Of The Sevenfold Spirit Of God" on our website, <http://www.bayourouge.net>). <sup>23</sup> If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven. If you don't forgive them, they are not forgiven." John 20:19-23 (New Century Version)

<sup>49</sup> "And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with **power** from on high." Luke 24:49 New American Standard Version

<sup>7</sup> He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; <sup>8</sup> but you will receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." Acts 1:7-8 New American Standard Version

Again, if you would like to know more about the seven-fold **power** of the Holy Spirit and what it can do for you, we invite you to read the paper entitled "The Power of the Sevenfold Spirit Of God" on our website, <http://www.bayourouge.net> .

We find that before the Jewish nation lost the Glory of the Lord (Ezekiel chapters 8, 9, 10 and 11), they had been the Lord's authorized agency to publish the good news of God's salvation. <sup>3</sup>"And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel; <sup>4</sup>Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself. <sup>5</sup>Now therefore **if ye will obey my voice** indeed, and **keep my covenant**, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: <sup>6</sup>And **ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests**, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel." Exodus 19:3-6 King James Version

When Jesus **first began** His earthly ministry, He offered to relieve Israel of the terrible chastisement of Isaiah 6:8-10 and to restore them as His authorized agency to publicize the good news of salvation. **THEY REFUSED.** <sup>5</sup>"These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: <sup>6</sup>But go rather to the lost (separated) sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>And as ye go, preach, saying, the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Matthew 10:5. King James Version

<sup>11</sup>He came to His own, and **His own did not receive Him.** <sup>12</sup>But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." John 1:11-13 (New International Version)

Israel did not take advantage of the opportunity, so Jesus Christ called out (Matthew 4:18-25 and Mark 1:16-20), trained (Matthew 5:1 and 9:37), organized (Luke 12:22-32 and

*Ephesians 4:11-16*), authorized (*Matthew 28:18-20 and Acts 1:1-8*), and empowered (*Luke 24:49 and Acts 1:8*) **a third agency** to publish the good news of salvation until He comes back. Most of His scriptural churches are composed of non-Jews.

The nation of Israel did not take advantage of the opportunity Jesus Christ offered them so the ability to perceive what God is doing and the ability to receive the instructions of God (*Matthew 13:10-17*) will not be restored to the nation of Israel until they are converted during the Great Tribulation (*Ezekiel chapter 37*). God's Divine Word tells us this was the reason Jesus spoke to the people of the nation of Israel in parables. “ *1 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. 2 Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. 3 Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. 4 As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. 5 Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. 6 But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. 7 Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. 8 Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. 9 He who has ears let him hear.”* *10 The disciples came to him and asked, “Why do you speak to the people in parables?”* *11 He replied, “The knowledge of the secrets of the **kingdom of heaven** has been given to you, but not to them. 12 Whoever has will be given more and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. 13 **This is why I speak to them in parables:** “Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand. 14 In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: “‘You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. 15 For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.’ 16 But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. 17 For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.*

*18 “Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: 19 When anyone hears the message about **the kingdom** and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. 20 The one who received the*

*seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. 21 But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. 22 The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. 23 But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty, or thirty times what was sown.” Matthew 13:1-23 (New International Version)*

The Lord removed from the nation of Israel the ability to perceive what He was doing and the ability to receive and understand the instructions Jesus Christ was sharing. **No matter how good Jesus Christ was at persuasion, He was unable to reach most of the people of Israel.** The people were unable to comprehend. **That is exactly what will happen to most churches in the last days before the Catching Up.** The members will be busy just “playing church” so the Lord will remove their ability to perceive what He is doing. God will remove the power of the seven-fold Spirit of God including the Spirit of Understanding (Isaiah 11:1-2). The removing of the illumination of this candlestick (Revelation 2:5) will remove their ability to understand the Bible. A few of the churches will have a pastor or a teacher who studies and understands God’s plan for man. However, when the pastor or the teacher speaks, most of those in the assembly will look the person right in the eye and not be able to understand what they are sharing. Their main concern will be how soon the pastor or the teacher will shut up so they can go home. If Christ could not reach that type of person during His ministry on this earth, it is little wonder that the pastor or the teacher cannot reach them either.

You are welcome to correspond with us. *Robert Tanner.* The Living Water group on Face Book