

# Before the THRONE

## The Devotional

Volume 3

The Prophetic Books

Jonah 1:1

“The Word of the LORD came to Jonah, the son of Amittai, saying...” Jonah 1:1

One dare not manufacture the Word of the LORD – though many do just that – they substitute their own imaginings or merely repeat as their own what another has prophesied in the name of the LORD – most often then out of context and most assuredly without His accompanying power!

Don't put words in God's mouth!

Listen friend, the Lord knows how to get His Word to you. He knows who you are and how you best hear. He knows your father's name and He has your address as well as your phone number!

Your task is to be prepared and open to hearing from the Lord. Prepare your heart and attitude. Because obedience is a condition and attitude of heart we must “pre-set” our hearts to obedience before the Lord speaks to us. Such “pre-setting” of the heart often is liberating and essential before we can hear from the Lord. “The just shall live by faith.”

Be aware though of this reality – no matter how much preparation you may put into hearing the voice of the Lord – fasting, prayer, Bible reading, godly counsel, waiting upon Him in quiet, etc., when His Word does come to you – only then will your heart know for sure its response. Therefore, it is so very important to develop a lifestyle of obedience and a posture of heart to readily obey.

If you will not obey the written injunctions of the Scriptures chances are that you won't obey the voice of His Spirit either.

“Lord, I hunger to hear Your “rhema”<sup>1</sup> *spoken* word, yet at the same time – help me to obey Your Logos – the written Word. As I demonstrate my faithful obedience may I also be found with a willing and upright heart.”

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<sup>1</sup> Rhema is the Greek word meaning the uttered or spoken word. It is the specific Word of God as compared to the Logos Word of God – the broader expression, the thought, the divine expression. Jesus is the Logos of God – the Word of God (John 1:1) and He speaks to us the rhema of God (Romans 10:17).

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