


**God Chooses
Through Whom He
Speaks**

Numbers 12:1 – 15


Presented by Bob DeWaay
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Moses' sister and brother challenge his authority

- **Numbers 12:1, 2**

Then Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Cushite woman whom he had married (for he had married a Cushite woman); and they said, "Has the Lord indeed spoken only through Moses? Has He not spoken through us as well?" And the Lord heard it.



Miriam spoke of God's mighty deeds

- **Exodus 15:20, 21**

Miriam the prophetess, Aaron's sister, took the timbrel in her hand, and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dancing. Miriam answered them, "Sing to the Lord, for He is highly exalted; The horse and his rider He has hurled into the sea."

Moses spoke for God, Aaron spoke for Moses

- **Exodus 7:1, 2**

Then the LORD said to Moses, "See, I make you as God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet. You shall speak all that I command you, and your brother Aaron shall speak to Pharaoh that he let the sons of Israel go out of his land."

Moses is not likely to stand up for himself


- **Numbers 12:3**

(Now the man Moses was very humble, more than any man who was on the face of the earth.)

Yahweh intervenes


- **Numbers 12:4, 5a**

Suddenly the LORD said to Moses and Aaron and to Miriam, "You three come out to the tent of meeting." So the three of them came out. Then the LORD came down in a pillar of cloud and stood at the doorway of the tent, and He called Aaron and Miriam.

 Moses is the faithful mediator of the Old Covenant


■ **Numbers 12:5b - 7**

When they had both come forward, He said, "Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, shall make Myself known to him in a vision. I shall speak with him in a dream. Not so, with My servant Moses, He is faithful in all My household;

 Moses received direct, objective revelation


■ **Numbers 12:8**

"With him I speak mouth to mouth, Even openly, and not in dark sayings, And he beholds the form of the Lord. Why then were you not afraid To speak against My servant, against Moses?"

 Miriam comes under judgment


■ **Numbers 12:9, 10**

So the anger of the Lord burned against them and He departed. But when the cloud had withdrawn from over the tent, behold, Miriam was leprous, as white as snow. As Aaron turned toward Miriam, behold, she was leprous.

 Aaron who challenged Moses now wants Moses to intercede for them


■ **Numbers 12:11 - 12**

Then Aaron said to Moses, "Oh, my lord, I beg you, do not account this sin to us, in which we have acted foolishly and in which we have sinned. Oh, do not let her be like one dead, whose flesh is half eaten away when he comes from his mother's womb!"

 Moses prays and God heals

■ **Numbers 12:13 - 15**

Moses cried out to the Lord, saying, "O God, heal her, I pray!" But the Lord said to Moses, "If her father had but spit in her face, would she not bear her shame for seven days? Let her be shut up for seven days outside the camp, and afterward she may be received again." So Miriam was shut up outside the camp for seven days, and the people did not move on until Miriam was received again.

 Applications and Implications

- 1) We must understand and defend the principle of *sola scriptura*
- 2) We may prophesy only by bringing forth valid implications and applications of Scripture
- 3) We must resist all teachings and persons who claim to speak for God beyond Scripture

What Happens When Moses' Unique Role is Challenged

- **Numbers 12:1-10:**
Miriam and Aaron: Miriam gets leprosy
- **Leviticus 10:1, 2**
Nadab and Abihu Die
- **Numbers 16:1-33**
Korah, Dathan, and Abiram Challenge Moses' Authority to Mediate the Covenant, and Drop Immediately into Sheol

Sola Scriptura -- At Issue: To Whom We Listen

- **Deuteronomy 18:14, 15**

For those nations, which you shall dispossess, listen to those who practice witchcraft and to diviners, but as for you, the Lord your God has not allowed you to do so. The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your countrymen, you shall listen to him.

Sola Scriptura: The Prophet Will Speak God's Words

- **Deuteronomy 18:18, 19**

"I will raise up a prophet from among their countrymen like you, and I will put My words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. And it shall come about that whoever will not listen to My words which he shall speak in My name, I Myself will require it of him."

Jesus is the Prophet Predicted In Deut. 18 Who Speaks God's Words


- **John 12:48**
 "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day."
- Jesus Christ Came in the Flesh and Spoke God's Authoritative Words

How False Prophets are Identified

- **Deuteronomy 18:21, 22**
 "And you may say in your heart, 'How shall we know the word which the Lord has not spoken?' When a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the thing does not come about or come true, that is the thing which the Lord has not spoken. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him."


The True Prophet Must Be Identified

- **Deuteronomy 18:20**
 "But the prophet who shall speak a word presumptuously in My name which I have not commanded him to speak, or which he shall speak in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."

 **A Doctrinal Test As Well**


- **Deuteronomy 13:1-3**

If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder, and the sign or the wonder comes true, concerning which he spoke to you, saying, "Let us go after other gods (whom you have not known) and let us serve them," you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams; for the Lord your God is testing you to find out if you love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

 **God Raised Up the Prophet Moses Predicted Who "Tabernacled" Here**


- **John 1:14**

And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

 **Jesus is the one to whom we must "listen"**


- **Luke 9:34, 35**

And while he was saying this, a cloud formed and began to overshadow them; and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My Son, My Chosen One; listen to Him!"

 Jesus' Words are Authoritative


■ **John 5:45 - 47**

“Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; the one who accuses you is Moses, in whom you have set your hope. For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote of Me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?”

 God's Full and Final Revelation is in Christ


■ **Hebrews 1:1, 2**

God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.


 Christ the True Tent of Meeting, Finished His Work and Moved His Mediatorial Role to Heaven

■ **Hebrews 1:3**


And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high;

 We Neglect our Salvation if we Fail to Listen to Jesus Words


- **Hebrews 2:1-3**
For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard,

 *Sola Scriptura* -- At Issue: To Whom We Listen

- **1Corinthians 14:36 - 38**
Was it from you that the word of God first went forth? Or has it come to you only? If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you are the Lord's commandment. But if anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized.

 All under the New Covenant can prophesy

- **Acts 2:11, 18**
Cretans and Arabs we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God." . . . Even on My bondslaves, both men and women, I will in those days pour forth of My Spirit And they shall prophesy.

 The faith was “once for all” delivered

- **Jude 1:3**

Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.