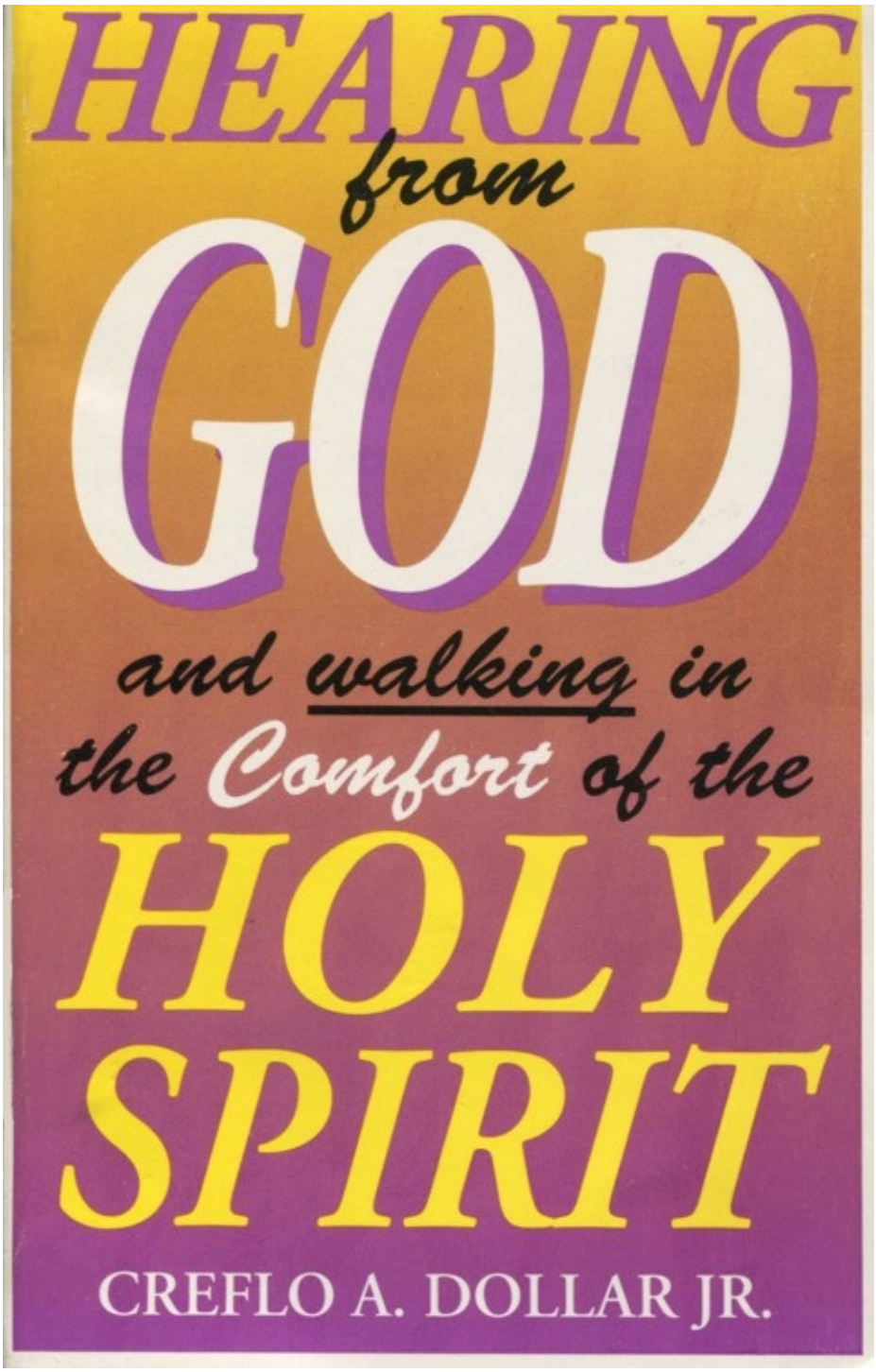
HEARING from GOD and walking in the Comfort of the HOLY SPIRIT

CREFLO A. DOLLAR JR.



Hearing from God and

Walking in the Comfort of

the Holy Spirit

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are

from the *King James Version* of the Bible.

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Part 1

Hearing from God

1

Trouble. Hard, unforgiving, strength-testing trouble. Like it or not, it's an inevitable part of every life—including yours. Rich, poor, black, white... we all experience trouble at various times. In fact, Jesus himself guaranteed it! *"In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."* (John 16:33)

Yes, all Christians experience trouble, but have you ever noticed that some people seem to always come through it smelling like a rose? Have you ever wondered how some believers can walk through tough times with calm assurance and smiles on their faces? Or why some always seem to experience miraculous deliverance while the rest take it on the chin?

I have news for you. These people aren't

specially favored by God. They don't enjoy any special privileges. They have the same

Word to which you have access. They have the same Holy Spirit that dwells within you. The difference is—they've discovered the secret of hearing from God and walking in the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

These believers have the key to coming through trouble in peace, power and praise. And you can have it too. That's what this little book is all about.

Hearing from Heaven

Even though we live in a world full of turmoil and tribulation, God has made it possible for you to hear his voice of direction. And being able to hear from heaven is absolutely critical if you are going to know how to respond to trouble.

Why is hearing God's voice so important? Because it allows you to get God's perspective of your situation. In a time of crisis, there is simply no way you are going to

know what to do if all you have is your own outlook on the situation.

A good illustration is a traffic jam in a large city. From street level it is impossible to know what the traffic flow is like around the next corner, not to mention ten miles up the road. That's why many radio stations provide airborne traffic reports from helicopters. From his vantage point high above the city, a traffic reporter can warn you of accidents and tie-ups long before you ever get there. Even better, he can recommend an alternative route that will guide you around the really bad spots.

The same is true where God and you are concerned. When you are in the middle of a trying situation, there is no way you are going to have all the facts you need to make good decisions. God, on the other hand, sees the whole picture from beginning to end. Best of all, He wants to give you the wisdom and

insight you need to get out of the
circumstance and come out a winner.

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But just as it is impossible to obtain a
traffic report unless you have your radio tuned
to the right station, so it is impossible to get
God's perspective unless you know how to
hear from heaven!

Child of God, tuning into heaven is the
answer to whatever trouble you are facing
today. Time and time again, scripture links
together the concepts of deliverance from
trouble and hearing God's instructions.

Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt
preserve me from trouble;... I will instruct
thee and teach thee in the way which thou
shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.
(Psalm 32:7, 8)

Seeing your problems from God's vantage
point puts them in their proper perspective.
Many Christians have the dangerous tendency

to magnify their problems. If you're filled with worry and anxiety, it's because you have big problems and a small God.

It's very easy to magnify your problems

when all you've got is your own perspective. But when you get God's viewpoint on your situation, suddenly your problems seem very small. Suddenly you have a very big God and some tiny, insignificant problems!

"But, Pastor Dollar! I don't know ***how*** to hear the voice of God!"

Don't despair. In the next few pages we'll look at two surefire methods for hearing from heaven. But, first you must know about the one thing that will stop you from hearing God's voice every time.

Get the Sin Out

Nothing will close your ears to the voice of God's Spirit faster and more completely than the presence of sin in your life. That may

be the last thing you want to hear right now, but it’s the truth just the same.

Why does sin destroy your ability to hear from heaven? Because it destroys your confidence toward God.

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Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. (1 John 3:21)

When you have unconfessed sin in your life, your heart condemns you. Take note—it’s not God that condemns you. *“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus.”* (Romans 8:1) Rather, your heart, the inner soulish part of you, shrinks back from approaching God.

When your heart condemns you because of the presence of sin in your life, you end up depending on someone else to do your praying for you. You'll look for “welfare solutions” to your trouble—the kind that don’t require you

to make any effort of your own.

Christians in this condition will sit through dozens of counseling sessions. They'll call friends at all hours of the day and night asking for prayer. They'll do everything except the one thing that will restore them to fellowship with their Heavenly Father. That is, calling the sin "sin," confessing it and

getting it out of their lives.

You can't walk around with your heart condemning you and expect to have any sensitivity to the voice of God. It simply won't work that way. You must judge yourself because no one else can do it for you. Ask the Holy Spirit to examine your heart with the searchlight of God's Word. Then be ready and determined to get rid of any uncleanness that is exposed.

God wants us to live holy lives. Why? Is it because He wants to throw His weight around

and take away all your fun? No! It’s because he wants to bless you exceeding abundantly beyond all you could ask or think! (Ephesians 3:20)

Sin will destroy you but God wants to bless you. However, God can’t bless a dirty vessel. Getting the sin out is the first step toward enjoying the blessing of hearing from God. And, oh, is it a blessing!

Just one word from God can save your

life. Just one word from God can make you rich. Just one word can make all the difference in the world for you. His words bring salvation. His words bring protection. They bring deliverance, safety, soundness and healing.

Don’t you realize that everything God has ever done, He has done through His Word? That is why He wants you to be able to hear from Him. He speaks in order to tell you

exactly how to experience the abundant life.

Two Channels of Communication

"Alright, Pastor Dollar, you've convinced me. I've dealt with the unconfessed sin in my life, but I still don't know how to hear God."

There are basically two ways in which God speaks to His children. The first and most common way is through His written Word.

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in

righteousness: (II Timothy 3:16)

God's Word is always profitable to you. It contains His will and His ways. It is far more than just words on paper. It is a manifestation of the very life and power of God himself. According to Hebrews 4:12 it is actually a living force!

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged

sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul

and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges

the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

(NIV)

Do you need to know the will of God

concerning a certain matter? Go to His Word.

God's Word is His will. His will is His Word.

Do you need the wisdom of Heaven when

faced with a big decision? Get your Bible.

You'll have the very wisdom on Almighty

God at your fingertips.

God's Word will always produce. It never

fails.

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So shall my word be that goeth forth

out of my mouth: it shall not return unto

me void, but it shall accomplish that

which I please, and it shall prosper in the

thing whereto I sent it. (Isaiah 55:11)

The effectiveness of God's Word is not

the problem. Our tendency to turn to our

emotions in a time of trouble rather than turning to the Word, is the problem. Still, God has yet another way in which to communicate with us.

The Inner Voice of God's Spirit

From time to time I'll hear a Christian who is facing some type of decision or test express the desire to be visited by an angel. "I just wish God would send an angel down here and tell me what to do," they say.

Well, I'd like to see an angel just as much as the next guy, but I've learned that when it comes to getting direction and guidance from Heaven, we believers have a much better deal. We've been given the Spirit of God himself to

dwell on the inside of us 24 hours a day, 365 days a year!

Think about it. Which would you rather have, a visit from an angel with a message once or twice a year, or the Holy Spirit of God

communing with you every minute of every day? That's precisely what we have. The problem is, very few of us take advantage of this wonderful resource.

The Holy Spirit has been provided to be your constant companion and comfort.

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; (John 14:16)

At work, at home, awake or asleep, the Holy Spirit is there on the inside of you ready to communicate the will of God to your spirit. When you need to know the truth about a situation, the Spirit is there to lead you to it. It's His job.

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth,

is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he

speak: and he will shew you things to come. (John 16:13)

Did you see that? *"He will guide you into all truth...."* When you meet someone who is trying to deceive you, the Spirit is there to show you the truth. When you are faced with two different options and you don't know what to do, He will guide you to the truth. God is no respecter of persons. It doesn't matter how much education you've received... It doesn't matter how much money you have... It doesn't matter where you've come from... He will open all the vast resources of heaven's wisdom if you're His child.

Sometimes, when I'm dealing with a particular circumstance, the Spirit of God speaks to me in the midnight hour. He says, "Son, there is something wrong with that situation. Wake up and get My Word out."

When the Spirit speaks to you like that,

don’t just roll over and go back to sleep.

When the Creator of the universe wants to talk to you, get up! Say, “Lord, what do you want to say to me?” If you don’t hear anything, start praying. Pray in the Holy Spirit. Allow Him to pray through you. Praying in the Spirit will begin to pull the wisdom and counsel of God from your spirit. Then you can begin to get an understanding of it in your mind.

The Spirit also speaks through what has been called, “the inward witness.” This refers to an inner prompting or impression through which you just “know” what God wants you to do. Hearing God in this way simply involves following the course of action which carries a “peace” with it.

God wants to speak to you. He’ll do it, first and foremost through His written Word. But he’ll also do it through the voice of the Holy Spirit. Receiving this kind of communication is absolutely vital if you are

going to successfully come out of trouble.

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Part 2

The Comfort of the Holy Spirit

2

It's one thing to be able to hear from Heaven so you'll know how to come out of trouble. It's another thing to be able to have a complete and total peace while you're in the process of coming out.

If you want to be the kind of believer that walks in quiet confidence and assurance no matter what the circumstances, you're going to have to learn to walk in the comfort of the Holy Ghost.

Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost.... (Acts 9:31)

God wants the blessing of His comfort to

cover and envelop your life. But for that to

happen you're going to have to start walking in the fear of the Lord. Fear, in this case, simply means "honor, reverence and submission."

To fear God is to hate evil. To fear God is to quickly make changes in your life when you see in the Word that adjustments need to be made. This is the prerequisite to experiencing the comfort of the Holy Spirit. How does the Holy Spirit comfort us? In many ways. One of which is by showing us all the things that are ours in Christ Jesus.

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. (I Corinthians 2:12)

Did you catch that? One of the roles of the Spirit in your life is to show you all the things

that have been freely given to you by God. Your Heavenly Father has given you so much that it takes His very Spirit working on the

inside of you for you to begin to grasp it all! That's true comfort.

The Spirit of God wants to reveal to you that you don't have to be sick. Healing is yours in Christ Jesus. He wants to show that you don't have to be poor and broke all the time. All sufficiency is yours in the Lord. When you're in the midst of trouble, all the benefits of salvation are ready to be revealed to you through the comforting work of the Holy Spirit.

Walking in the Spirit

In the verse we just read (I Corinthians 2:12) Paul says we have been given the Holy Spirit *"... that we might know the things that are freely given us by God."*

In the very next verse he tells us how to

receive that wonderful knowledge.

Which things also we speak, not in

the words which man's wisdom teacheth,

but which the Holy Ghost teacheth;

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comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

(I Corinthians 2:13)

To really experience the fulness of the comfort of the Holy Spirit, you're going to have to become spiritually minded. You're going to have to know what it means to walk in the Spirit.

There are many things you need to know which simply cannot be grasped with the natural mind. Too frequently, when God speaks to us we end up scratching our heads asking, "Was that you Lord? Or was that me?" There is only one reliable way to make sure you're hearing the voice of God. That is to be so familiar with His Word through Bible study and His voice through spending time

with Him, that you immediately recognize it when it comes. You see, God's spoken words will never contradict His written Word. They are always harmonious. They are always in agreement.

When my wife calls me on the phone, I

immediately know it's her. How? Because I've spent enough time with her to be able to instantly recognize her voice. Likewise, you'll know the voice of God by spending time with Him. There is no other way.

To truly know and understand the things God has freely bestowed upon you takes time and diligence applied to spiritual things. It requires that you give attention to the things of God so that your inner man is nurtured and strengthened.

Then, as you hear and obey the counsel of the Lord, you experience the comfort of the Holy Ghost. That's the key to receiving this

blessed comfort. Hear and obey. It's as simple as that.

When tough times come, you can be one of those who comes through without a scratch. When the storms of life come crashing in, you'll be the one who stands steady as a rock. Others around you may fall. Everyone you know may be wringing their hands and crying "What shall we do?" But you will know

nothing but calm assurance.

Peace of mind. Miraculous deliverance. Supernatural wisdom and insight. All this and much, much more belongs to the man or woman who applies these principles and learns the secret of hearing from God and walking in the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

Books by Creflo A. Dollar Jr.

Capturing the Reality of Heaven and Hell

Confidence: The Missing Substance of Faith

The Divine Order of Faith: How to get from the

Problem to the Answer

Exposing the Spirit of Competitive Jealousy

The Force of Integrity

Rightness vs. Righteousness

Understanding God's Purpose for the Anointing

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