



## Daily Devotion



*“Oh, that My people would listen to Me!” Psalm 81:13*

*We evidently experience what Pythagoras fabled about the movement of the celestial spheres...He said that the movements of the heavenly bodies constantly send forth the loveliest music, but that the hearts and ears of mortals have been so dulled by this ceaseless music of the spheres that they no longer hear it.*

*Thus we see God baptizing, absolving, comforting, administering Communion. But who listens or marvels at this? We are moved slightly or not at all by God's warning, promise, comfort, and Sacraments. Therefore we deserve to be punished for paying no attention to this most lovely and melodious music of heaven. Even if we heard angels preach in their majesty, we would not be moved any more by it than we now are by hearing our pastor or other ministers preach. **Martin Luther***

When God was about to pass by the place where Elijah was, there came a great and strong wind, an earthquake, and a fire. But God was not in these things. Then there came a low whisper, and hearing it, Elijah went out to listen to the Lord (1 Kings 19). And so today also, God is not found, nor does He speak to us, in powerful things. He is found and speaks to us in the low whisper of the Gospel of Christ. But how can we hear when we, ourselves, are speaking? We want to tell God what He must do, how He must save us, how He must answer our prayer. But we must *“be still and know that (He) is God”* (Psalm 46:10). Then, in the Gospel, we hear what He has done to save us through Jesus. Then we hear Him comforting us and satisfying all our needs.

*Speak, O Lord, Your servant listens, let Your Word to me come near.  
Newborn life and spirit give me, let each promise still my fear. Death's  
dread power, its inward strife, wars against Your Word of life; fill me,  
Lord, with love's strong fervor that I cling to You forever. Amen.*