



The Lord spoke thus to me with a strong hand...” (Isaiah 8:11). There is no escape when our Lord speaks. He always comes using His authority and taking hold of our understanding. Has the voice of

Who are You, Lord? —Acts 26:15

God come to you directly? If it has, you cannot mistake the intimate insistence with which it has spoken to you. God speaks in the language you know best— not through your ears, but through your circumstances.

God has to destroy our determined confidence in our own convictions. We say, “I know that this is what I should do” — and suddenly the voice of God speaks in a way that overwhelms us by revealing the depths of our ignorance. We show our ignorance of Him in the very way we decide to serve Him. We serve Jesus in a spirit that is not His, and hurt Him by our defense of Him. We push His claims in the spirit of the devil; our words sound all right, but the spirit is that of an enemy. “He...rebuked them, and said, ‘You do not know what manner of spirit you are of

” (Luke 9:55). The spirit of our Lord in His followers is described in 1 Corinthians 13.

Have I been persecuting Jesus by an eager determination to serve Him in my own way? If I feel I have done my duty, yet have hurt Him in the process, I can be sure that this was not my duty. My way will not be to foster a meek and quiet spirit, only the spirit of self-satisfaction. We presume that whatever is unpleasant is our duty! Is that anything like the spirit of our Lord — “I delight to do Your will, O my God...” (Psalm 40:8).

Comment: *It is the desire of Jesus that all would be saved. That they would all have an abundant life here while of Earth and in Heaven after we die physically.*

*It is because of this desire that all might be saved, that those people who insist on “**sitting on the fence**” will face hardships in their lives until they truly submit their lives to God. How do you submit your life to God? 1) Recognize that Jesus died on the cross as a blood sacrifice for your sins. Your Sins. 2) Thank God for saving us from sin so that we might reconcile with the Father. 3) Confess our sins and shortcoming to God. Say something like, Lord I can not do this, I do not know what to do or how to do it. Have mercy on me a sinner. Lord save me.*

And until we submit to the will of God, we will continue to face hardships. That after all is the language we know best... Our circumstances.