

JOHN TAULER - 1294-1361

Study Questions



Scripture: *Mark 7:32–37*

Spiritual Deafness

1. Tauler teaches that humanity became spiritually deaf the moment we listened to the serpent instead of God—closing our ears to the inward Word.

Where do you notice yourself “stopping your ears” today—avoiding conviction, ignoring God’s promptings, or refusing difficult truth?

2. He says Satan enters the soul through disordered attachments—honor, reputation, pleasure, self-love—and through lingering over tempting images.

Which attachments or inward “pictures” make you most vulnerable to spiritual deafness, and how might you resist them sooner?

3. Tauler warns that many religious people are deaf because they cling possessively to outward practices and devotions rather than remaining inwardly free for God.

What outward religious habits help you truly hear God—and which ones risk becoming noise, busyness, or spiritual identity markers?

4. One of Tauler’s tests for true love of God is how we respond to suffering, contradictions, and interior anguish—whether we remain inwardly at peace or turn impatient and rebellious.

How do trials reveal what (or whom) your soul really loves? Do they uncover peace—or resistance?

5. Tauler says that when Christ opens our ears, the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit enter the soul and reshape it in fear, piety, knowledge, fortitude, counsel, understanding, and wisdom.

Which of these gifts do you most long for right now, and what form would “open ears” need to take in your daily life to receive it?

Notes

Feedback

If you develop any questions you feel would better serve group discussion, let us know and we would love to consider updating & including them.

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