

## Cause Me

*“Cause me to hear your lovingkindness in the morning, For in you do I trust; Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, For I lift up my soul to You.”*  
(Psalm 143:8).

God is the first cause of everything. This is a high theological axiom based on the reality of Monotheism: There is only one God who is sovereign, omnipotent, and holy. He stands alone as architect, creator, and upholder of the universe, answerable to no one but Himself in all His perfections.

We who believe in such a God, love His word, seek His guidance, and hope in His care, would hear from Him. We have been betrayed by our own illusions of personal wisdom and understanding. We have discovered the vanity and treachery of the counsels of men. The wisest and best of them are fallible and, in some measure, blind leaders of the blind. Not only are men incapable of giving perfect counsel: they are not free to do so. They always have their own agenda, mindset, points of view, which they are anxious to set forward.

Our receiving the counsel of God, however is hindered, by our deaf ears, our lack of understanding, our miniscule faith, our doubts and fears, not to speak of impressions and voices and counsels from dozens of fallible sources. God is sufficient. He is able. But how do I “put myself” in a position to “hear”, to “know”? Early in the morning our minds are immediately filled with thoughts, plans, ambitions, and objectives for the day. How shall we have any confidence that any of these thoughts, impressions are the counsels of God, or our own foolish and reckless undertakings?

We can put to practical application the axiom in view. Since God is the first cause of everything, may we not trust Him to *cause* us to hear? Why should He cause all things in the universe to work together for good to them who love Him, and not also cause us to hear His voice. Nothing makes His lovingkindness real and powerful to us like hearing His voice, knowing that He speaks to us, acknowledging us as His children, and Himself as our God! He who spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, shall He not make known unto us the way in which we should walk?

Do we have some responsibility in this respect? Is there something we ought to do in order for God to *cause* us to hear? And if so, does this not make *us* the first cause instead of God? Yes indeed, we have some responsibility. There is something we ought do if we have any grounds of expectation of God causing us to hear Him. We need to *believe* Him, to *trust* Him. He will not cause us to hear Him unless we do. But this does not, by any means, make us the first cause of our hearing him, for the simple reason that He, Himself is the first cause of our faith and our trust. Faith is not a work that arises from our own capacity, which, in turn, engages grace to our hearts. Faith, itself, our trust in God, is also the gift of God (Eph. 2:8). He who caused our faith will also cause us to hear His voice, and cause us to know the way in which we should walk.

– C. M