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THE FILTER

I have had a hearing loss for many years and have had several pairs of hearing aids to help. Without them, I am unable to hear almost anything. Recently one of the hearing aids stopped working. I could get no sound out of it, and I thought it needed to be charged since it was a rechargeable hearing aid, but that did not help either. It wasn't very old, and I thought it might be broken.

I went to the place where I got them and the owner, who is an expert at knowing issues like this, checked it out. It was a simple fix. The hearing aid has a very tiny filter that keeps the wax out, but if the filter is full of wax, then the hearing aid cannot not do its job and will stop working. The expert took the filter with the wax in it out and instantly the sound was working. The filter was doing its job of keeping the wax away from the inner workings, but at the same time kept it from working for me to hear.

If you know me at all, you realize that God shows me a life lesson in almost everything. He showed me that many people become "dull of hearing" because sin has clogged their spiritual ears. Instead of "filtering" things in their lives through the word of God, and repenting daily, they allowed sin to build up. They do not hear the voice of the Holy Spirit like they once did. They often live like that for a long time. They are living a life of unrepentance which has clogged their hearing. They forget to go to the "expert" that made them and ask what the problem is. They continue in this state unless they get their "spiritual wax" out, which is sin. It clogs their spiritual ears.

Seven times Jesus spoke to John in the Book of Revelation about **"he that hath an ear let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."** They are found in Revelation 2:7; 2:11; 2:17; 2:29; 3:6; 3:13; and 3:22. When God repeats himself that many times we need to "listen up" and act on what He has said. Each church was told of the things they needed to repent of so they could thrive.

Sadly, the churches that received this message no longer function as they did when they received the message. Their spiritual ears became plugged. Like that filter in my hearing aids, there was a blockage, which was sin, and they did not realize the problem. As we read Revelation, we see that each of these churches are examples of things that cause us to not "hear from God." We can learn much from these scriptures.

What about us? Is there a lesson for us to learn? I would say yes, there is. When we are not hearing from God like we once were, then we need to diligently seek him and find out what is blocking us from hearing. Often it may look like a small thing, like that tiny piece of earwax in my filter, but it is not small with God. The old saying "Get the wax out of your ears" is a valid saying for each of us spiritually. We must keep our ears open to hear from God.