

# Revelation 3:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

## Analysis

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The repeated refrain 'He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches' emphasizes personal responsibility to respond to divine revelation. Spiritual hearing requires regenerate hearts—the Holy Spirit must grant ears to hear (Ezekiel 12:2). This is corporate address ('churches,' plural) reminding each congregation that messages to one apply to all. Reformed theology affirms the Spirit's internal testimony makes Scripture effectual; mere exposure to truth without spiritual illumination leaves hearers deaf to its claims.

## Historical Context

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This formula concludes each letter to the seven churches, underscoring that these were circular messages for all congregations, not private correspondence. In an oral culture, public reading in worship gatherings was primary Scripture distribution. The call to hear engaged listeners personally while recognizing corporate application.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## 1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

### Study Questions

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1. How can you cultivate spiritual attentiveness to 'hear' what the Spirit says through Scripture beyond mere intellectual understanding?
2. What does the corporate nature ('churches') of this address teach about the church's role in understanding and applying God's Word?

### Interlinear Text

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ὁ	ἔχων	οὗς	ἀκουσάτω	τί	τὸ	πνεῦμα	λέγει
G3588	He that hath	an ear	let him hear	what	G3588	the Spirit	saith
	G2192	G3775	G191	G5101		G4151	G3004
ταῖς	ἐκκλησίαις						
G3588	unto the churches						
	G1577						

### Additional Cross-References

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**Revelation 2:7** (Spirit): He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.