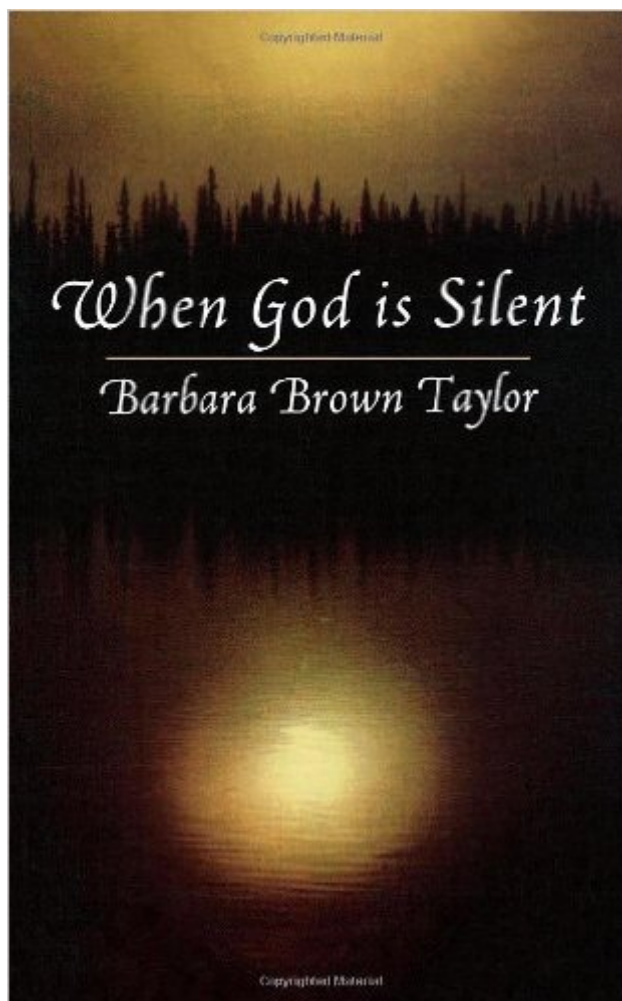


The book was found

# When God Is Silent (Lyman Beecher Lectures On Preaching)



## Synopsis

Reading of God's silence in the Bible gives me courage to explore the practice of restraint in preaching—not as a deliberate withholding of God's word nor, I hope, as a rationale for my own reticence, but as a sober reaching for more reverence in the act of public speaking about God. In these 1997 Lyman Beecher Lectures in Preaching delivered at Yale Divinity School, Barbara Brown Taylor focuses on the task of those who preach and those who hear sermons in a world where people thirst for a word from God. How may we approach this seemingly silent God with due respect, proclaiming the Word without violating the silence, by speaking with restraint? Her first chapter examines the late twentieth-century language with which we talk about God in theology and speak to God in prayer. The second chapter addresses the question of God's communication in Scripture and how the voice of God was heard less and less in the land as the centuries progressed. Finally, Taylor explores what the silence of God means for Christians and how we may exercise homiletical restraint in speaking of the divine.

## Book Information

Series: Lyman Beecher Lectures on Preaching (Book 1997)

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Cowley Publications; 1st Paperback Edition edition (February 28, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1561011576

ISBN-13: 978-1561011575

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.4 x 7.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (27 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #417,514 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #114 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Denominations & Sects > Protestantism > Anglican](#) #146 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Denominations & Sects > Protestantism > Episcopalian](#) #437 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Preaching](#)

## Customer Reviews

Barbara Brown Taylor demonstrates her craft as a preacher so effectively that she has earned the title of one of America's best. In her book *When God is Silent*, Barbara brings to light the difficulty many that preach face as they approach the Biblical text and message. In forthright honesty she gives expression to areas that both teach and frighten a preacher when they are preparing a homily:

famine, silence, and restraint. Taylor speaks to a culture that has become accustomed to its throwaway lifestyle. Words are disposable. With so many words now being assimilated into the English language, our minds are over satiated. This rich diet of fast food newsprint, magazine gluttony, and a blitzkrieg of entertainment television has numbed the ability of words to move and stir our being. In the midst of abundance, we are in a state of famine--a famine that is silent. What do we do when we don't hear the voice of God? Taylor paints a picture of a God who has grown silent in order that we may pay attention. The canvas of silence is one we avoid with all our might. Upon the canvas, the colors are vivid primary tones that our culture tries to dull with noise and activity. Her point is well taken...God is not really silent, people have just muted God out. But she warns preachers to be wary of using too much language to fill voids of silence, for silence is the antacid to settle our indigestion caused by over feeding on our vernacular. What Taylor does best, is allow the reader to reflect on whose word is being proclaimed on Sundays. She uses the old adage of 'less is more' to articulate that holding back on word usage allows for the silence to speak, almost like a ray of sunlight peaking through a cloud covered sky.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

When God Is Silent (Lyman Beecher Lectures on Preaching) Preaching as Local Theology and Folk Art (Fortress Resources for Preaching) On Preaching: Personal & Pastoral Insights for the Preparation & Practice of Preaching Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture: The Application of Biblical Theology to Expository Preaching Delivering the Sermon: Voice, Body, and Animation in Proclamation (Elements of Preaching) (Elements of Preaching) Meade's Headquarters, 1863-1865: Letters of Colonel Theodore Lyman From the Wilderness to Appomattox (Classic Reprint) Lectures on Preaching: Delivered Before the Divinity School of Yale College in January and February, 1877 (Classic Reprint) Who Was Harriet Beecher Stowe? ¿ Quié? / Who Was? (Spanish Edition) Not a Silent Night: Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem (Not a Silent Night Advent series) Lectures on Calvinism, The Stone Lectures of 1898 The Feynman Lectures on Physics, Vol. II: The New Millennium Edition: Mainly Electromagnetism and Matter (Feynman Lectures on Physics (Paperback)) (Volume 2) Preaching and Stewardship: Proclaiming God's Invitation to Grow (Vital Worship Healthy Congregations) Preaching the Presence of God: A Homiletic from an Asian American Perspective And God Spoke to Abraham: Preaching from the Old Testament The Hidden Smile of God: The Fruit of Affliction in the Lives of John Bunyan, William Cowper, and David Brainerd (Swans Are Not Silent) Kiss of God: The Wisdom of a Silent Child The Mime: The Silent Voice of God Isaiah 1-39: Interpretation: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching Preaching Through the Christian Year: Year A: A

# Comprehensive Commentary on the Lectionary

[Dmca](#)