

The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 83

Discernment to know God's Truth from Satan's Lies



2015

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If YOU have never personally believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Simply tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sins of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. *(Acts 16:31) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." (John 3:16) "God loved the world so much that He gave us One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*



LESSON

Why do we need to have discernment? We need discernment to determine the Truth from that which is false. That's because there are those two kinds of wisdom. There is the perfect wisdom from the Word of God...our Bible...the Holy Scriptures, which is absolute perfect Truth, which blesses the believer to the MAX every day. Then there is a wisdom that is a lie that comes from the kingdom of darkness whose author is Satan who does not want the best for mankind. In other words there is perfect and precious Truth from God and deceit and lies from Satan. You have to know the difference.

The wisdom or Truth that comes from God is called the "mind of Christ." We find this in 1 Cor 2:15-16. "The spiritual person (believer) judges all things, but is not judged by anyone. (16) For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ." The mind of Christ is our TREASURE. It gives us peace, comfort and secure.

In 1 Cor 1:30 we see the perfect wisdom we get from God the Father in His Word. "It is because of Him (the Father) that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God...that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption." As you can see, this is the wisdom that we want to have from our perfect Father, who freely gives to us through Jesus, His Son and our Savior. This is what gives believers perfect peace and contentment on earth even when we have problems or unpleasant things that happen to us. We don't have to worry or fear the future at all!!! Cool right? God's perfect wisdom pours out blessings on the believer and comforts us and brings us through our problems. You see how God's love takes care of us in all things? This is the wisdom you want to have, kids.



Now on the other hand, in James chapter 3, James calls the wisdom from Satan, earthly, natural and demonic. Now the naturally minded man or those who do NOT believe in Jesus as their Savior cannot discern, understand, or distinguish between the Truth and lies!

Let's read and see how the Apostle Paul shows us the difference between God's wonderful wisdom and the false wisdom from the kingdom of darkness in 1 Cor 2:1-14. "And when I came to you, brothers (believers), I did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with superior speech or wisdom. (2) For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. (3) And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, (4) and my speech and my message were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, (5) that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. (6) Yet among the mature we do teach wisdom, although it is not of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. (7) But we teach a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. (8) None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. (9) But, as it is written, 'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those (believers) who love him.' (10) These things God has revealed to us (believers) through the

Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. (11) For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one understands the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. (12) Now we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. (13) And we teach this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Holy Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual (believers). (14) The natural person (unbeliever) does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

We also see what our wonderful Father in heaven does for believers in the Lord Jesus Christ and who have His mind in the Word in Prov 16:20-22a and in Prov 16:23-24. **"He who gives attention to the Word will prosper, and blessed is he who trusts in the Lord. (21) The wise in heart will be called discerning (understanding), and sweetness of speech promote instruction. (22) Understanding is a fountain of life to one who has it..." (23) The wise man's heart guides his mouth and his lips promote instruction. (24) Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones."**

The contrast to this is the fool who does not believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as we can see in Prov 16:22b and in Prov 16:25. "...but the foolishness brings punishment to fools. (25) There is a (false) way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death."

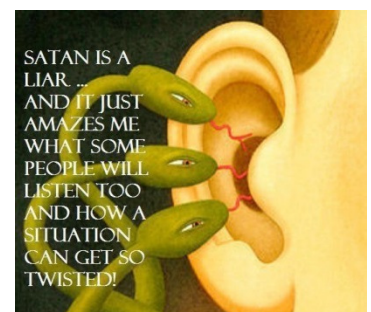


Now when we believers love Jesus and want to obey Him, we learn His precious Word every day and as time passes, we become more and more like Jesus and behave like Him towards others!!! This is all done through the POWER of the Holy Spirit. This is a POWER that is far better than anything on earth. We love to watch all the comic book characters who have super powers don't we? Yes, it's fun to see them winning over the evil powers of the enemies in those comic books and movies. Characters like Superman, Batman, and Captain America, Thor etc. But there is NO POWER GREATER than the POWER of the HOLY SPIRIT!!!! Guess what? YOU HAVE THAT POWER!!!!



The Bible warns us over and over again to be watchful because there will be MANY false teachers among us today. 2 Peter 2:1-3 "But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies (lies from Satan), even denying the Master (Jesus) who redeemed them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. (2) Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be badmouthed; (3) and in their greed they will manipulate you with false words; their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep." The POWER from the HOLY SPIRIT however, helps us to see through the false teachers. Praise God for that, right? 1 John 4:1 "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world." 2 Cor 2:14 "But thanks be to God, who **always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ** and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him." So NO WORRIES, kids. God's got us in His hands.

Do your part. Stay in God's plan and know the difference between the two wisdoms. Then take in the wisdom from God every day and use the POWER because the Bible tells us that in the last days before the Rapture, the believer will be bombarded with an incredible amount of evil and lies through various media...TV, radio, music, advertising, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and print material in the form of books, newspapers and magazines. You need not worry though because with the Word of God and the POWER of the Spirit, you will not be fooled by the lies. God loves us and will help us see the difference!!! We see this bad influence in 1 Tim 4:1-2 which says, "But



the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, (2) by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron..." And again Paul warns us in 2 Tim 3:1-5. "But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. (2) For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, (3) unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, (4) treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, (5) holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; avoid such men as these."

I know all this seems really terrible and it is for those who are ignorant of God's Word and Spirit. You have both so you don't have to be afraid or worried. God doesn't give us or want us to fear this. Rom 8:15 "For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of son-ship. And by him we cry, 'Abba, Father.'" This wonderful verse assures us that God is with us in all times of trouble and that we can call on Him for help. We can call Him "Daddy" anytime and ask Him for help. We could cry out His name and He always hears us.

Dan 12:4 "But as for you, Daniel, conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time; when many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase." We live in a day and age where this is literally coming true before our eyes and ears. We have the internet, wireless communication, Facebook, Twitter, 24 hour cable news, an explosion of the printed word and an explosion of cults and false religions that bombard us with Satan's lies. But you, kids, because you love God and He loves you, God has made it so we can tell the difference between God's wisdom and the lies we hear every day. This should give you great comfort.



This attack kids, is part of the invisible war we studied called the angelic conflict. Satan and his demonic forces are trying everything to get you away from depending on God and His Truth. We are in a war against invisible fallen angelic creatures who are more intelligent and more powerful than human beings BUT NOT more powerful than GOD! So you stick with God and His Word and you will NEVER fall for the lies.



Why should you care about discernment? Because you are in the middle of this war zone! So you need to know the difference between friend and foe...Truth from lies! And your enemy definitely doesn't fight fair. In fact, they disguise themselves to look as much like our friends as possible.

Satan's game is deception and lies. John 8:44 "You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the Truth because there is no Truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

God's Truth is PEACE and LOVE and ASSURANCE!!! Which do you want? I'd say **GOD'S plan**, right? Remember: Rom 8:15 "For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of son-ship. And by him we cry, 'Abba, Father.'" Call on Him ANYTIME!

What will give you discernment to tell the difference and set you free from fear and worry from Satan's lies? This will:

John 8:32 "You will know the Truth and the Truth will set you free."

Close in prayer.

Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on 4-11-2012
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