

WHAT DO YOU SEE?



Icebreaker: This picture is of the world trade center tower replacement on 9/10/2015.

What do you see when you look at this?

This picture was taken shortly before Elul on the last day of a Shemita year.

When you look at Genesis 9: 13-17: Bow = comes from two words in Hebrew that mean harden and to lure. The implication of it is the bow God set in the sky was a weapon but it was placed facing away from the earth as a sign that it would not be destroyed in the same manner (flood) ever again (Oxford's Annotated Bible).

Bringing that context in – this picture was taken the day before the 14th anniversary of 9/11 (which is consequently the anniversary of the defeat of the ottoman empire in 1698 at the battle of Zenta which effectively pushed Islam back out of Europe into Turkey and began the crumble of the Ottoman stronghold) at the end of Shemita year. 9/11 occurred in a shemita year so did the subsequent collapse of the housing market.

Me and my mentee saw this and immediately thought warning of destruction but it

wont come as it has before.

NOW, WHAT DO YOU SEE?

Giant rainbow appears over Ireland after gay marriage victory



This picture is from Ireland on 5/23/15 – rainbows still good right?
Reveal the headline. Is this still good?

Irish potato famine was caused by economic collapse – however it was notable because famines of this nature had not been seen in Europe in 300 years.

Prior to collapse Ireland was the richest country in the world although its bottom 1/3 of the poor were considered poor because they didn't have their own land and were provided state subsidies (welfare), however it was known for drunkenness and extreme and hostile division among the church.

<http://www.ehs.org.uk/dotAsset/d358c7f1-2322-479e-90b1-6bfcc06f336e.pdf>

DISCERNMENT

Region II
September 19, 2015

So Discernment – we can all discern. Some have the gift of discerning of spirits, some discern by the spirit in the moment but we can all and are all required to discern and as we saw, the best place to start is **to know your word**. Inside and out so you can discern.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Section 1	Section 2
Understanding Discernment	Using Discernment
What is discernment	How it works
Why we need discernment	How to increase
Who can discern	Practice
	Execution



INTRODUCTION

“Teach me good discernment
and knowledge, for I believe in
Your commandments”
Psalms 119:66

Discernment is a perception/communication gift and one of the primary ways we communicate is through our eyes.

LORD, OPEN OUR EYES...

Mark 8:18 NKJV *Having eyes, do you not see? And having ears, do you not hear? And do you not remember?*

Hebrews 5:14 NKJV But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, [that is], those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to *discern both good and evil*.

Mark 8:18 – There are two sets of senses, natural and spiritual. When the two work together with the Holy Ghost, we can discern.

Hebrews 5:14 – Four things going on in this scripture.

1. Maturity
2. Use = in the greek means a power or skilled acquired by practice.
3. Senses are used to discern
4. Good and evil. Should be able to discern Good as well as Evil.

LORD, OPEN OUR EYES...

Ephesians 1:17-18 NKJV that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, 18 the ***eyes of your understanding being enlightened***; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

Ephesians 1:17 – Its not just seeing something but its understanding what it is, what is behind it.

Research the blood moons as an example of discerning in contrast to the world; Joel 2:31, Acts 2:20, Rev 6:12

LORD, OPEN OUR EYES...

2 Kings 6:16-17 NKJV ...so he answered, "Do not fear, for those who [are] with us [are] more than those who [are] with them." 17 And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, *open his eyes* that he may see." Then the **LORD opened the eyes of the young man**, and he saw. And behold, the mountain [was] full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

Supernatural discernment. When the servant's eyes were opened, he both saw and understood what the situation really was.

In this case discernment was used to mature the servant under the supervision of a leader.

LORD, OPEN OUR EYES..

Revelation 3:17-18 NKJV "Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'--and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked 18 "I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, [that] the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, *that you may see.*

Discernment of one's self: Will, thoughts, heart, intent, weaknesses and opportunities.

One of the most difficult levels of discernment because of personal bias, but it is where God can really mold you. He cant force you to change, but you cant line up with his will if you don't see your faults.

"Buy from me" implies it costs us something to attain this discernment. We must be willing to give up some of what we value about ourselves or what we think defines us.

LORD, OPEN OUR EYES...

Matthew 7:4 NLT How can you think of saying to your friend, 'Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,' when **you can't see past the log** in your own eye? **5 Hypocrite!** First get rid of the log in your own eye; **then you will see well enough** to deal with the speck in your friend's eye.

This is instruction how to perfect your character to correctly use your discernment. You are to get rid of your bias, deal with your issue before you approach someone about theirs because once you do, you can more clearly see the issues others are going through and help restore them.

LORD, OPEN OUR EYES

1 John 2:11 NKJV But anyone who hates another brother or sister is still living and walking in darkness. Such a person does not know the way to go, *having been blinded* by the darkness.

1 Corinthians 12:31 NKJV But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.

Each of these scriptures is directed to the body of Christ at large, not prophets, priests and seers.

Discernment can be hindered by hate and forgiveness, especially of the saints.

It is okay to want greater discernment, more accurate discernment or discernment at all because we are commanded to desire the best gifts because it allows God to show us a better way.

DISCERNMENT IS A GIFT THAT PERCEIVES FROM THE HEART THROUGH THE SPIRIT OF GOD AND COMMUNICATES TO AN UNDERSTANDING MIND.

Our eyes must first be open to the fact we must discern, then we can discern the good from evil.

If it's a gift it can be given and in truth, discernment can be taught.

JUDGE NOT ... OUT OF CONTEXT

Matthew 7:1-5
Luke 6:37

Need to get this out of the way upfront because discernment involves judging according to the spirit. Used out of context and as excuse to continue in sin, disobedience and rebellion. This is not correct. Throughout the bible we see occasion for judgment in the legal and moral sense.

Ex: the widow who sought judgment.

Judgment rights wrong which is inline with the nature and character of a holy, righteous God.

At its core, discernment is a judgement call.

JUDGMENT IS GODLY

And **necessary** to keep Godly order in the House.

We must be able to judge to keep godly order in the church.

Key is we have to judge by the standard of the Word of God – not by our own standards.

Judging behaviors or actions by our own standard turns quickly to condemnation.

Example: Skinny Jeans on men vs fornication

MATTHEW 7:1 IN CONTEXT

Matthew 7:1-2 NLT 1 "Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. 2 For you will be treated as you treat others. The standard (way) you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged.

=

Love one another + reap what you sow

Standard – condemnation of wrong, decision on passes on the faults of others

Judging – singling out

You can judge wrong with mercy or without it but you still call wrong, wrong.

Here is Christ's guidance in how we judge knowing how or the manner in which we execute judgment is how we can expect it executed upon us for our sin.

LUKE 6

Luke 6:37 NLT 37 "Do not **judge** others, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn others, or it will all come back against you. Forgive others, and you will be forgiven.

Judge = singling out

Judge – separate out, single out

Don't single out a person for doing wrong, especially if you are doing wrong yourself.

Condemnation – to judge or pronounce to be unfit for use or service: to count as evil

Judgment – determination or a decree of a determination

Why is correct judging key? Because there are people who think they can discern but they are just judgmental. You have to look at the fruit or the outcome of judgement. Does it restore? Does it correct? Does it reconcile? Or does it hurt, divide and damage?

DISCERNMENT | Section 1



WHAT IS DISCERNMENT?

Definition, Spiritual, Natural, Demonic

DISCERNMENT IS...

Simple definition is the ability to judge a thing as

Good or evil

Quality

True or false

Real or fake

Distinguish, a distinguishing, a clear discrimination, discerning, judging

Discerning of spirits is one of the gifts of the spirit, but we all have the ability to have our eyes opened and see things as they truly are as we saw in the seven verses of scripture.

Discernment can be learned and should be to some degree by all believers

“Teach me good discernment and knowledge, for I believe in Your commandments”

(Ps. 119:66).

SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT IS...

Spiritual discernment is the skill of separating divine truth from error. [First Thessalonians 5:21](#) says we are to "examine everything carefully." That speaks of testing something to reveal its genuineness.

Spiritual discernment is the skill of separating divine truth from error.

[First Thessalonians 5:21](#) says we are to "examine everything carefully." That speaks of testing something to reveal its genuineness.

We have gotten away from this because we passively discern meaning we expect God initiate all discernment instead of asking for revelation. But it's a huge reason we give God shoddy services. We don't discern or examine the correctness, quality or genuineness of things.

Malachi 3 – The people giving dead (non quality) sacrifices in insincere service.

SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT IS...

The ability to tell between right and almost right.

Spiritual discernment is the skill of separating divine truth from error.

Ability to distinguish what is going in the spirit realm.

GREEK

Anakrino

The ability to distinguish

1 Cor 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know [them], because they are spiritually discerned.

Dokimazo

Test or prove

Luke 12:56 Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time?

Krino

Condemn

Matt 7:1 Judge not, that ye be not judged.

Three root works in the Greek in relation to discernment

1 Cor 2:14 – anakrino: the ability to distinguish.

Luke 12:56 – dokimazo: to test or prove (Sometimes we see clouds but know it won't rain because the air doesn't smell like rain. Or it has rained but you can't really see it's wet, but you can smell it. One sense isn't enough to discern, need to discern with another sense to test or prove the first one.)

Matt 7:1 – krino: condemn

OTHER KINDS

Natural Discernment

[Luk 12:56 KJV] 56 [Ye] hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time?

Demonic Discernment

Acts 16:16 KJV And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: 17 The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. 18 And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

Natural Discernment

[Luk 12:56 KJV] 56 [Ye] hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time?

Natural ability to discern can come from a heightened awareness of your emotional state.

Can be sensitive to natural or emotional realm, but this is not the same as Godly discernment in the spirit.

Demonic Discernment

Acts 16:16 KJV And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

Demons spend more time in the spirit than we do.

MORE LEVELS

- Determine what is going on in the environment around you
- What to do in response to that environment
- How to do what you are supposed to do

Levels

Discernment is not just the ability to tell good from evil

Determine what is going on in the environment around you

What to do in response to that environment

How to do what you are supposed to do

This right here is a Spirit killer – when we aren't sensitive or discerning to the move of God.

You should as a part of your growth move from a place where you tell good from bad to where you are discerning not just the move of God but the direction he is going and who/what isn't on board.

That is how you set yourselves up for the gift of discerning of spirits – and please bear in mind since it's a gift, there is no reason you cant ask for it. Just keep in mind, it bears, as all gifts do tremendous responsibility.



HOW TO INCREASE

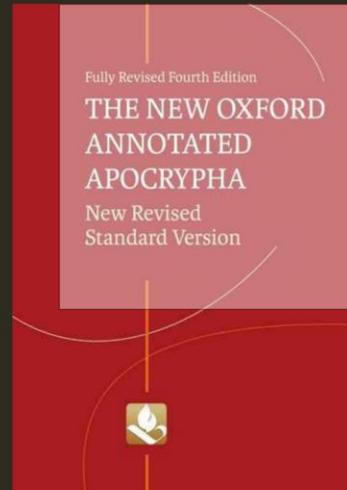
Discernment is like a muscle

GREATER DISCERNMENT

Know the word

Know the context of the word

Know the history of the word



The rainbow we looked at in the beginning when we take it in to context of a remembrance destruction will not come in the same fashion twice. Doesn't mean destruction to rampant sin wont come. It has to- God's character demands he judge sin as wrong.

DAILY LIFE TIPS

Focus on God

Strive to become holier

Be bold

Study discernment

Study the word

Study about things in the word

Ask questions

Focus on God more – think of it like the little red hen vs a navy seal when it comes to being focused.

Ex: before church – quiet and focused (worship music), taking 2 hours on Sat to study and read vs going shopping.

The holier you live the greater you can discern by faith – even if you don't have the gifting. Show God you want it if you do.

Be bold – you can't expect discernment if you don't do anything with it. What do I do first – I pray what I see. Next, you talk to your leader – don't be afraid to step out. I've had to ask the praise leader if I could start praise and worship because I could see where God was going and had to tell the congregation.

Study discernment – School of the Seer is a great book and the book the Seer have great information on discernment even if you aren't walking in that office.

Again, the word. The more you know the word, the greater context God can speak to you and show you things in.

Study about the word – what do I mean here?

One day in prayer I saw a giant sheath of wheat. Well I know wheat has to be threshed but I had to go look into the process of threshing wheat, the season, the context it was in the bible and then I understood what I saw.

All of the major prophets asked questions when they had visions. Ezekiel, Jeremiah even John in revelation asked what he was seeing?
If something looks off, ask God what you are seeing.

HOW

In love

With discretion

By permission

With strength

Run it through the five filter

FIVE FILTERS

FILTER #1 - AGREEMENT WITH SCRIPTURE

Agreement with scripture

Scripture is bias free, and never changes based on circumstance

[2Pe 1:19 KJV] 19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

[Psa 12:6 KJV] 6 The words of the LORD [are] pure words: [as] silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

FILTER # 2 -OUTWARD FRUIT OF THE SOURCE

Fruit = result, so what is the outcome of what you have discerned if acted upon?

[Mat 7:15-16 KJV] 15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. 16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

[Gal 5:22-23 KJV] 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

FILTER #3 - HOLY SPIRIT GUIDES YOU INTO TRUTH

Does it grieve the spirit in you? Do you feel condemned after speaking or thinking it?

[1Jo 2:20, 27 KJV] **20** But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things. ... **27** But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

FILTER #4 -PEACE OF CHRIST IN YOUR HEART

Do you feel grieved in sharing what you discerned? Or after you have shared it?

[Col 3:15 KJV] 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

FILTER #5 – THE WAYS & NATURE OF GOD

Murder

Abortion

Homosexuality

Shacking Up

Domestic Violence

Disease

Manipulation

Swearing

Drunkenness

[Psa 103:7 KJV] 7 He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel.