

## Discernment Pt 2 discernment of a spiritual man

This is our second study on the topic of discernment. In our first study we established the meaning of the word “discern” and three points – (1) A natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God because they are spiritually discerned, (2) the Pharisees could discern the face of the sky but not the signs of the times, and (3) Those in Israel in whom was no faith could not discern between good and evil. In this study we establish– (1) the word of God is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart, (2) a Christian understands the word of God when a teacher compares spiritual things with spiritual– because they are spiritual discerned, and (3) a Christian of full age has their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Our three points established from the scriptures –

### 1. The word of God is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart” (Heb.4: 12).

### 2. A Christian understands the word of God when a teacher compares spiritual things with spiritual – because they are spiritual discerned.

“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” (1 Cor.2: 14).

### 3. A Christian on strong meat has their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

“But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil” (Heb.5: 14)

#### Illustration

Christians around the world discern something different with what is happening with lockdowns and vaccinations– some see the evil and others do not. A pastor told me that he would not recommend another Christian for a school principal’s job because they would have to take the jab – which is contrary to the word of the God.

#### Questions to think about.

- i) Why does every pastor in the world not teach the same thing on whether their congregation should take the vaccine?
- ii) Can all Christians in the body of Christ “judge all things”?

#### Answers from the scriptures

i) The jab is a bit like the decision on whether one is allowed to smoke or not – in the sense that there is no clear verse that says – you may not smoke, and nor is there a verse that says you may not take a vaccine. But rather if one man discerns in his conscience that he is happy to do so, then let him do so, and if another man discerns not to do so then, let them make that decision based on their conscience. Let this not divide the body of Christ Rom.14: 5.

ii) Can all in the body of Christ judge all things? NO! – only

\* those that discern spiritual things! – 1 Cor 2:14, 15, and

\* have their senses exercised to discern good and evil– Heb 5:14.

Let us seek to discern spiritual things, to be of full age and have our “senses exercised to discern both good and evil” (Heb.5: 14). Amen!