

“THE MANIFESTATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT”

- c. He or she has the gift of the Holy Spirit residing on the inside,
 “Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world.” (1 John 4:4)
6. The manifestation of the Holy Spirit in “discerning of spirits” brings clarity, removes confusion and gives clear direction.
 - a. It will remove confusion concerning the real problem faced by an individual, so that he can be delivered, instructed or counseled.
 - b. With this discernment of spirits, just as with wisdom and knowledge, comes faith to act or pray with authority.
 - c. This is true with all power manifestations!
7. Satan can turn himself into an **‘angel of light’** (2 Cor. 11:13-15), and deceive even believers to a degree, but the presence of those operating with the manifestation of the discerning of spirits brings the needed protection.
8. All manifestations of life are; “the showing forth” of some sort of spirit.
 - a. Not all manifestations, even with Christians , are of the Holy Spirit.
 - b. “All that glitters is not gold.”
 - c. The purpose of the discerning of spirits is to bring protection, and to screen out wrong spirits from being expressed and influencing believers.

{LESSON 14A} {12/7/2008}

“THE PURPOSE OF DISCERNING SPIRITS?”

PART II

XXVII. The manifestation of “discerning of spirits” is for the purpose of:

A. *Deliverance from demons:*

1. Jesus used this manifestation to deliver a man from unclean spirits.
2. The story is told in Mark 5:5-10 AMP: **“Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always shrieking and screaming and beating and bruising and cutting himself with stones. V6, And when from a distance he saw Jesus, he ran and fell on his knees before Him**

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in homage. V7, And crying out with a loud voice, he said, What have You to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? [What is there in common between us?] I solemnly implore you by God, do not begin to torment me! V8, For Jesus was commanding, Come out of the man, you unclean spirit! V9, And He asked him, What is your name? He replied, My name is Legion, for we are many. V10, And he kept begging Him urgently not to send them [himself and the other demons] away out of that region.”

B. To reveal the servants of Satan:

- 1. In Acts 13:8-12 we see the power of “discerning of spirits” working in Paul: “But Elymas the wise man – for that is the translation of his name [which he had given himself] – opposed them, seeking to keep the pro counsel from accepting the faith. V9, But Saul, who is also called Paul, filled with and controlled by the Holy Spirit, looked steadily at [Elymas] V10, And said, You master in every form of deception and recklessness, unscrupulousness, and wickedness, you son of the devil, you enemy of everything that is upright and good, will you never stop perverting and making crooked the straight paths of the Lord and plotting against His saving purposes? [Hos. 14:9] V11, And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind, [so blind that you will be] unable to see the sun for a time. Instantly there fell upon him a midst and a darkness, and he groped about seeking persons who would lead him by the hand. V12, then the procounsel believed (became a Christian) when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished and deeply touched at the teaching concerning the Lord and from Him.”**

C. To expose and defeat the works and utterances of demons:

- 1. In Acts 16:16-19 AMP we read: “As we were on our way to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who was possessed by a spirit of divination [claiming to foretell future events and to discover hidden**

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knowledge], and she brought her owners much gain by her fortune telling. V17, She kept following Paul and [the rest of] us, shouting loudly, These men are the servants of the Most High God! They announce to you the way of salvation! V18, And she did this for many days. Then Paul, being sorely annoyed and worn out, turned and said to the spirit within her, I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her! And it came out that very moment.”

D. To expose error in the Church:

1. In 1 Timothy 4:1-3 we read, **“BUT THE [Holy] Spirit distinctly and expressly declares that in latter times some will turn away from the faith, giving attention to deluding and seducing spirits and doctrines that demons teach, V2, Through the hypocrisy and pretensions of liars whose consciences are seared (cauterized), V3, Who forbid people to marry and [teach them] to abstain from [certain kinds of] foods which God created to those who believe and have [an increasingly clear] knowledge of the truth.”**
2. Paul continues in verse 7 telling Timothy a great truth, **“But refuse and avoid irreverent legends (propane and impure and godless fictions, mere grandmothers’ tales) and silly myths, and express your disapproval of them. Train yourself toward godliness (piety), [keeping yourself spiritually fit].”**
3. In 1 John 4:1-3 we find more support concerning the exposing of error: **“BELOVED, DO not put faith in every spirit, but prove (test the spirits to discover whether they proceed from God; for many false prophets have gone forth into the world. V2, By this you may know (perceive and recognize) the Spirit of God; every spirit which acknowledges and confesses [the fact] that Jesus Christ (the Messiah) [actually] has become man and has come in the flesh is of God [has God for its source]; V3, And every spirit which does not acknowledge and confess that Jesus Christ had come in the flesh [but would annul,**

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destroy, sever, disunite Him] is not of God [does not proceed from Him]. This [non confession] is the [spirit] of the antichrist, [of] which you heard that it was coming, and now it is already in the world.”

{LESSON 14B} {12/14/2008}

“THE REALITY OF THIS FALLEN WORLD”

“THE DISCERNING OF GOOD SPIRITS”

XXVIII. Before I finish this lesson on “discerning of spirits” I need to teach the other side of this manifestation.

- A. Through the manifestation of discerning of spirits a person has the ability to see in the spirit realm, you could even discern the risen Christ.
1. You may even see cherubims, seraphims, archangels or the host of angels of God or receive a message from them.
 2. So, this marvelous manifestation is given for the believer to see good spirits as well as Satan and his host.
 3. All such visions would be a manifestation of the discerning of spirits.
 - a. Yes, it might also bring with it a word of wisdom or a word of knowledge, but the vision itself would be a discerning of spirits because that person would at that time be seeing into the spirit realm.
 - b. One of the great manifestations of discerning of good spirits is found in II Kings 6:11-17 AMP: **“Therefore the mind of the king of Syria was greatly troubled by this thing. He called his servants and said, Will you show me who of us is for the king of Israel? V12, One of his servants said, None, my lord O king; but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedchamber. V13, He said, Go and see where he is, that I may send and seize him, And it was told him. He is in Dothan. V14, So [the Syrian king] sent there horses, chariots, and a great army. They came by night and surrounded the city. V15, When the servant of the man of God rose early and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was around the city. Elisha’s servant said to**