

“THE MANIFESTATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT”

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**

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him, Alas, my master! What shall we do? V16, [Elisha] answered, Fear not; for those with us are more than those with them. V17, then Elisha prayed, Lord, I pray You, open his eyes that he may see. And the Lord opened the young man’s eyes, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire around about Elisha.

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- B. The manifestation of discerning of spirits is necessary if Christians are going to deal effectively with the spiritual realities of this fallen world.
1. Before I close this study on the manifestation of discerning of spirits I want to teach on the subject of the fallen world.
 2. Paradise is definitely lost. No doubt there are situations in your life that range anywhere from slightly less than perfect all the way to indescribably torturous.
 3. I want you to stop and think about what is going on in the lives of people you know.
 4. Look at TV, newspapers, or the Internet, let your mind expand your concentric circles of awareness to the rest of the world, and the countless people suffering day after day from a myriad of hideous circumstances.
 5. Sure, it might be a beautiful day where you live, and you may be experiencing no current trauma, but even a cursory look at life on planet earth reveals incalculable suffering.
 - a. My heart aches to think that God and the Lord Jesus, who love people far more than I do, must look upon the unspeakable pain of humanity for yet another day in what has thus far been about 6000 years of misery.
 - b. But I must say, it warms my heart that the Lord Jesus (and, figuratively speaking, creation itself) is very much in touch with our pain.
 - c. And that He and creation are eagerly desiring to bring about the inexorable redemption of the world.

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- d. It is comforting to know that our Hope is their Hope! In the meantime, it is comforting to know that they are beside us in the trenches of life, fighting for us in every situation.
- C. Sometimes things get so bad that we have no words to express our agony, and all we can do is let out a groan.
1. What does it mean to “groan”? One dictionary says: “to utter a deep, mournful, inarticulate sound expressive of pain or grief; to be overburdened or overloaded; to suffer greatly or lamentably.”
 2. The following two verses are examples of how Satan’s domination of the world causes godly people to groan for something better.
 - a. Proverbs 29:2 **“When the righteous thrive, the people rejoice; when the wicked rule, the people groan.”**
 - b. Acts 7:34 **“I have indeed seen the oppression of my people in Egypt. I have heard their groaning and have come down to set them free. Now come, I will send you back to Egypt.”**
- D. As Christians, we live in this current Administration of the Sacred Secret, which began on the Day of Pentecost and will end with the Rapture of the Christian Church, when our salvation will finally be consummated.
1. What we have now is the absolute guarantee of a glorious life in the coming Paradise.
 2. God has given each of us the gift of Holy Spirit, which, as the following verses state, is the witness within us that we are forever His children and thus have everlasting life.
 - a. In Romans 8:15 and 16 (My Translation) we read (V15) **“For you did not receive a spirit of slavery again to fear, but you received the spirit of adoption, by which we cry, “Abba” (Father).(V16) The Spirit himself bears witness together with our spirit, that we are children of God,”**
 3. Our new birth also gives us the power to serve the Lord amidst a dying world.

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- a. Doing so will require us to share in his sufferings, but if we are faithful, we will be richly rewarded and share in his glory also, a glory that will far outweigh whatever suffering we must endure.
 - b. Romans 8:17 and 18 (My Translation); (V17) **“.....and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ, since we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.(V18) For I maintain that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is about to be revealed in us.”**
- E. Then come the verses we will exposit in some detail, for they contain great truth that will enhance both our motivation to stand for the Lord in this sick world and our anticipation of his appearing, then we will see him face to face and receive our rewards from him.
1. Romans 8:19-21 (My Translation) **“For the eager expectation of the creation is waiting for the revealing of the sons of God (V20) (for the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of the one who subjected it) in hope(V21) that the creation itself also will be freed from the bondage of corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.”**
 2. We see that even the earth itself longs to be free from the curse of sin imposed upon it by Adam’s transferal of his God-given dominion over it to Satan.
 - a. The Greek word translated “eager expectation” literally means “anxious looking with outstretched head,” which aptly expresses the focused expectancy.
 - b. Note the parenthesis, which makes it clear that it was the Devil, not God, who subjected the world to its present state of agony.
 - c. In the New English Bible, the end of verse 20 and the beginning of 21 reads: **“Yet always there was hope that the creation itself will be liberated...”**
- F. In the next verses, we will see that Creation itself groans to be restored to its

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Edenic state, and that we believers, who have the guarantee of new life in Paradise, groan for the new bodies we have been promised.

1. Romans 8:22-25 (Author’s Translation): **“For we know that the whole creation groans together and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.(V23) And not only this, but we ourselves also, who have the first-fruits of the spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption, the redemption of our body.(V24) (For we were saved for the hope. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for that which he sees?(V25) But if we hope for that which we do not see, then we, with patience, eagerly wait for it).”**

G. And now come the verses that have perplexed many saints through the centuries.

1. Romans 8:26-28: **“ Moreover, in the same way also the Spirit joins in to help with our infirmity, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself makes intercession for us along with groans too deep for words.(V27) And he who searches the hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because he makes intercession for the holy ones according to the will of God.(V28) Now we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, even to those who are the called, according to his purpose.”**
2. In the same way”—as what? In the same way Creation groans and we groan, the Lord Jesus (here called “the Spirit”) groans.
 - a. Nothing in God’s creation is free from the horrific consequences of sin.
 - b. As our brother, and one who loves God’s creation, Jesus groans too.
3. This is a case where the orthodox belief that God is unchanging and all-controlling causes people to misunderstand the verse.
 - a. For example, Lenski wrongly writes, “...the Holy Spirit does not and cannot groan....”
 - b. The truth is that God can groan, and has a myriad of other emotions as well. So does Jesus.

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- c. Jesus is touched with the feelings of our infirmity (Heb. 4:15), this verse tells us that he, like the rest of Creation, is groaning in distress about its trauma.

{LESSON 15A} {1/4/2009}

“THE SACRED SECRET – GOD’S GIFT TO US”

- XXIX. For ages God kept a Sacred Secret, and He did not tell anyone or even give any hints about His secret until after the death of His Son, Jesus.
- A. The idea of the “Sacred Secret” starts in 1 Corinthians 2:9 AMP: **“But, on the contrary, as the Scripture says, What eye has not seen and ear has not heard and has not entered into the heart of man, [all that] God has prepared (made and keeps ready) for those who love Him [who hold Him in affectionate reverence promptly obeying Him and gratefully recognizing the benefits He has bestowed]”**.
1. Now, however, He has revealed it to mankind as shown in Scripture.
 - a. In 1 Cor. 2:10 AMP we read: **“Yet to us God has unveiled and revealed them by and through His Spirit, for the [Holy] Spirit searches diligently exploring and examining everything, even sounding the profound and bottomless things of God [the divine counsels and things hidden and beyond man scrutiny].”**
 - b. We also find support for this revealing in Ephesians 3:5 AMP: [This mystery] was never disclosed to human beings in past generations as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles (consecrated messengers) and prophets by the [Holy] Spirit.”
 2. This is a good place to ask the question, why did God keep His secret until after Jesus died?
 3. Because what God has given us today was so crucial to His overall plan for mankind that if Satan and his demons had known about it, they would not have crucified Jesus.
 - a. This is clearly shown in 1 Corinthians 2:7-8 KJV: **“But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery [mysterion – Sacred Secret], even the**