UNMASKED · PART 1

It Doesn't Feel Right

Sermon notes on discernment

WHAT IS DISCERNMENT?

From the Latin *discernere*. Discernment is the ability to sift what is right from what isn't, even when all you know at first is that something doesn't feel right.

dis-	*cernere*
apart	to sift, separate, distinguish

DON'T BE A FOOL

> "The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned."
>
> 1 CORINTHIANS 2:14

MY NOTES

01 WE HAVE TO ASK FOR IT

> "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."
>
> JAMES 1:5

SOLOMON ASKS

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?”

1 KINGS 3:5–9

GOD ANSWERS

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days.”

1 KINGS 3:10–13

MY NOTES

02 WE HAVE TO DEVELOP IT

Discernment comes through practice. It's a faith muscle.

> "But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil."
>
> **HEBREWS 5:14**

MY NOTES

03 WE HAVE TO PUT IT TO THE FIRE

> "But test everything; hold fast what is good."
>
> **1 THESSALONIANS 5:21**

GOD IS GOING TO PUT US TO THE TEST

> "In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ."
>
> **1 PETER 1:6–7**

APPRECIATE THAT HE DOES

> "But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD."
>
> **MALACHI 3:2–3**

UNDERSTAND WHY HE DOES IT

> "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."
>
> **ROMANS 12:2**

MY NOTES

ASK. DEVELOP. TEST.

01
ASK
James 1:5 · 1 Kings 3:5–13

02
DEVELOP
Hebrews 5:14

03
TEST
1 Thess. 5:21 · 1 Peter 1:6–7 · Malachi 3:2–3 · Romans 12:2

Where in my life do I need discernment right now?

What is one thing I will ask God for this week?

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