

THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS

PAUL'S PRISON EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS

CHAPTER 4:7-16 Pt.12

TAPE # WN 229 ~ DATE: June 23, 1997

TITLE:

“United in the Gifts” Pt.12

SEATED IN THE HEAVENLIES IN CHRIST JESUS

SUB-TITLE:

“The Growing Up” of a Healthy Church

THEME:

Ephesians 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

INTRODUCTION

WE NEED THE PERSON AND WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE CHURCH

We're Continuing to be look at the 4th Key:

1. The Origin of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit - where do they come from?
2. The Purpose of the Gifts - why are they important to us today?
3. The Use of the Gifts - the “nuts and bolts” of true, anointed, service
- 4. The Operation of the Gifts - the way the gifts are used**
5. The Unity of the Gifts - what should happen when God is in control?

THE GIFTS

RECEIVING THEM vs. ENJOYING THEM AND USING THEM

“The Gift of discernment”

Our Last Time Together we ended the study (topic: healing) with the admonition or warning...

That There is a Danger Witnessing God's Works and yet remain an unbeliever

The Sea of Galilee is beautiful body of water, and surrounding it were various cities, each have a bustling population of its own - to these cities Jesus went and preached and worked great miracles...

Matthew 11:20

Then He began to rebuke the cities in which most of His mighty works had been done, because they did not repent: ²¹ "Woe to you, **Chorazin!** Woe to you, **Bethsaida!** For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. ²² But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment than for you. ²³ And you, **Capernaum**, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades; for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. ²⁴ But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you."

Tiberias - Chorazin - Bethsaida - Capernaum

Tiberias was Jesus ministry headquarters while he ministered in the north.

Yet Chorazin - Bethsaida & Capernaum saw the greater miracles

Interestingly enough

***When You Visit Chorazin - Bethsaida - Capernaum today, there's nothing there...
but ruins and broken foundations !!!***

1 Corinthians 12:7-10

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: ⁸ for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, **to another discerning of spirits...**

What discernment is not:

- It's not "GHOSTBUSTING"
- By no means is it a critical or mean spirit, or a judgmental person, one having a critical heart !!!
- It is not a keen insight into human nature, that is, being talented enough by experience or education

1.) What is the "Discerning" of spirits

2.) Why is the Gift Needed

3.) How is the Gift Used

when a church, or a people, a person

has lost their ability to judge rightly, to make godly decisions
- **it will soon go astray**

As it was with Judah

Isaiah 1:4-5

Alas, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a brood of evildoers, children who are corrupters! They have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked to anger the Holy One of Israel, they have turned away backward.

Isaiah ⁵ Why should you be stricken again? You will revolt more and more.

The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faints.

2 Timothy 3:1

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:

1 Timothy 4:1

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

The miracles that Jesus performed,

often involved the demonic or satanic realm.

Matthew 4:24

Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with (1) various diseases and (2) torments, and those who were (3) demon-possessed, (4) epileptics, and (5) paralytics; and He healed them.

In the Midst of all the various Situations

- How did Jesus know?

Acts 16:17-18

Luke records an encounter with a young, slaves girl that followed Paul and team, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." :18 And this she did for many days. **But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit,** "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that very hour.

In the Midst of all the various Situations

- *How did Paul know?*

And What About Us ?... These same demonic and satanic powers are at work in our world today, and increasing !!!

But we're not Jesus, and we're not Paul...

have we been left to our devices - with our power alone?

John 14:16- 18

"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever- :17 "the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. :18 "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

Jesus accomplishes *(present tense)* His desire to be with us and in us,
by the person and power of the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 2:10-14

But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. ¹¹ For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. ¹³ These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. ¹⁴ But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

1 Corinthians 2:15

But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one.

Experience

Bible

Knowledge

Hebrews 5:12-14

For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. ¹³ For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. ¹⁴ 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.

1.) What is the "Discerning" of spirits

1a.) The Definition from Scripture

1 Corinthians 12:10a

to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy,
to another discerning of spirits...

*

Discerning GRK 1253 diakrisis (dee-ak'-ree-sis);

to judge through something. to separate thoroughly getting to the source. To discriminate properly.

The divine ability to sense,

or to detect spiritual opposition that is directed toward someone or the body at large...

It's a both 'Defensive' and 'Offensive' gift

- It can be used to protect against an evil
- As well as to advance against evil

DEFENSIVE

it can be used to protect against an evil

Luke 4:33 - 35

OFFENSIVE

as well as to advance against evil

Matthew 8:28 - 9:1

1b.) Does Every Christian Have it ?

There does appear to be a 'General Discernment' given to all Christians for protection

1 John 2:27

But **the anointing** which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

But not all believers possess this gift in its fullness

1 Corinthians 12:8

for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit.... and so on!

So That, We Will Need One Another

and be dependent upon one another...

2.) Why is the Gift Needed

2a.) Needed to protect the body

A DEFENSE AGAINST DECEPTION

We're At War with the Devil
and His Demons forces

Acts 5

"Ananias and Sapphira"

IN THE AREA OF PASTORING (teaching)

always in relation to the word. With certain verses, certain exposition of a topic or theme or message...

Matthew 7:15-18

"Beware of false prophets, they will come to you in sheep's clothing,
but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ "You will know them by their fruits....

THEY PRODUCE SOMETHING - AND WHEN THEY DO

....Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? (NO) ¹⁷ "Even so, every good tree bears good
fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ "A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.

1 John 4:1

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but **test the spirits**, whether they
are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

What is being implied by John is...

these false prophets have given birth to many others just like them

The Matthew 24:4 Admonishing

Pastors Romaine's encounter with Elijah

Hello everyone, I am Eligah, and the end of the world is near - I'm just waiting for Moses to arrive... So Romaine put the phone down and said "hey listen Elijah, that was Moses on the phone, he's over Greg Laurie's church in riverside, said he wants to come over there right away" - thanks man and away he went

Turn to 2 Corinthians 11:13-15

Satan is the Master Counterfeiter
and for every truth, there's a lie

The Creation	vs.	The Evolution
The Bible	vs.	The Koran
Jesus Christ	vs.	The Antichrist
True Prophets	vs.	False Prophets
True Apostles	vs.	False Apostles
True Believers	vs.	False Believers

2b.) Needed to deliver the lost

Acts 13:6-11

Now when they had gone through the island to Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew whose name was Bar-Jesus,⁷ who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man. This man called for Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God.⁸ But Elymas the sorcerer (for so his name is translated) withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith.⁹ Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him¹⁰ and said, "O full of all deceit all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord?¹¹ "And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time." And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand.

IN THE AREA OF EVANGELISM (preaching)

I know from personal experience, where the Lord will instantly put facts into my mind about a certain person that I am witnessing to

2c.) Needed to Glorify God

Turn to Matthew 9:1-8

(A PROGRESSION OF GIFTS IN ACTION)

Verse 4 - discernment

Verse 5 - the word of wisdom

Verse 6 - the gift of faith

Verse 8 - the gift of encouragement (God loved them) (not even Jesus))

3.) How is the Gift Used

3a.) Used with Prayerfulness

There is a biblically based warning in effect

A HOLY SPIRIT ‘ALARM’

A deep “something’s not right”
about a person, a situation, a doctrine or a word

- By ‘a person’ I mean:

There is a deep-rooted uneasiness that is present, when they are in the midst of your being...

It’s like hitting the return key on a Bible program
searching, searching, searching

- By ‘a situation’ I mean:

An external situation, an atmosphere, a presence that surrounds a business, a store, or an event

- By ‘a doctrine’ I mean:

This is the most obvious to me. The encountering of false teaching
(BELLS AND WHISTLES GO OFF IN MY HEAD)

The message and the messenger
often look the same - weird!!!

- By ‘a word’ I mean:

Christians are the worst for this.

The Lord told me that I... or The Lord told me to tell you...

(Give me the verse, the chapter...)

Hebrews 1:1-2a

God, who at **various times** and in **various ways** spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these **last days spoken to us by His Son,**

3b.) Used with Knowledge

Look to the Bible, God will give a verse or an event of scripture to confirm

**Understand that there is a time to;
comfort / exhort / correct / cast out**

3c.) Used with Wisdom

Coming from a biblical foundation, prayerfully, you approach the situation with the goal in sight

The Christian who has this gift - should always use it with the desire for restoration first

Having this gift will not make you popular
It's often a very "Alone Gift" because not all will see

The Kalla deal / ministry opportunities / counselling