

A most needed attribute of God we need in this life is discernment.

Why?

With all the deception the world offers, with the watering down of God's Word by false prophets, with the humanistic psychology that redefines black and white to all shades of gray, no wonder deception can affect even Christians, unless we take the necessary steps to have our hearts and minds focused on Christ.

In the world today, everything has become relative to the point that there is no more true or false, black or white, or even right or wrong. One has only to notice what's going on around us to see how much confusion exists.

What is discernment?

Discernment is the learned ability to perceive rightly according to a strong basic set of values and knowledge.

To the true believer in God, our basic set of values is obviously based on God's Word.

As such:

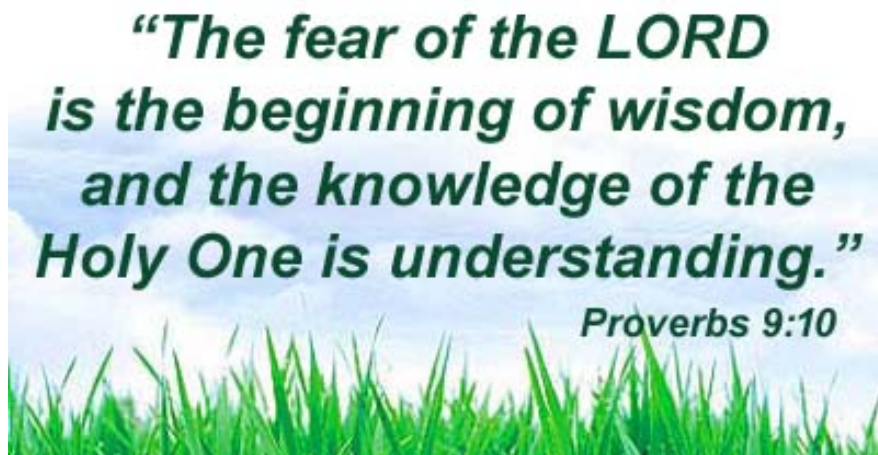
1John 4:2-3: "Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world."

The reason why we must:

James 4:8: "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you."

Do I truly seek discernment so I truthfully abide in Christ?

You may reproduce part of the content of this website for non-commercial purposes only. May not be reproduced or featured on any other websites without permission of "Christ At The Helm" author. For additional information or to obtain permissions, contact: christatthehelm1@gmail.com



How can we discern between the foolish so-called wisdom of the world, and the wisdom from God?

James 3:15-17: "This wisdom does not descend from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, demonic. For where envy and self-seeking *exist*, confusion and every evil thing *are* there. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy."

Who then is our secure source of wisdom?

1Corinthians 1:30: "But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption."

How do we find God's wisdom?

Proverbs 2:3-5: "If you cry out for discernment, *and* lift up your voice for understanding, if you seek her as silver, and search for her as *for* hidden treasures; then you will understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God."

Why?

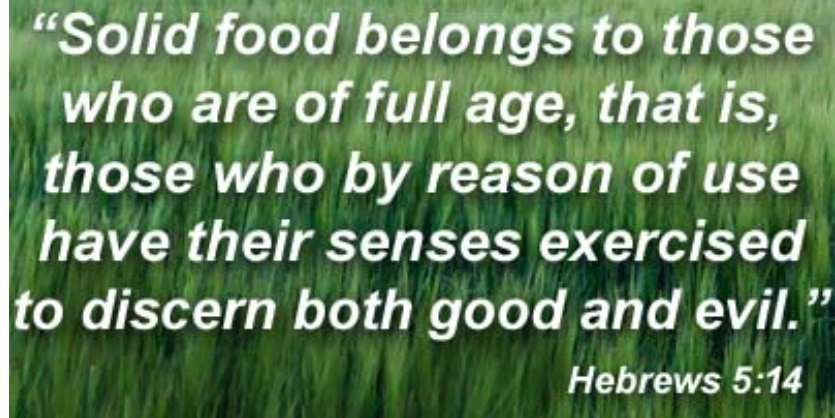
1Corinthians 2:15-16: "He who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is *rightly* judged by no one. For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ."

Therefore:

Proverbs 14:6: "The mocker seeks wisdom and finds none, but knowledge comes easily to the discerning."

Is Christ my source of wisdom and discernment?

You may reproduce part of the content of this website for non-commercial purposes only. May not be reproduced or featured on any other websites without permission of "Christ At The Helm" author. For additional information or to obtain permissions, contact: christatthehelm1@gmail.com



Solomon is a clear example of the need to seek discernment in asking God:

1Kings 3:9-12: "Give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?" The speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. Then God said to him: "Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked long life for yourself, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice, behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you."

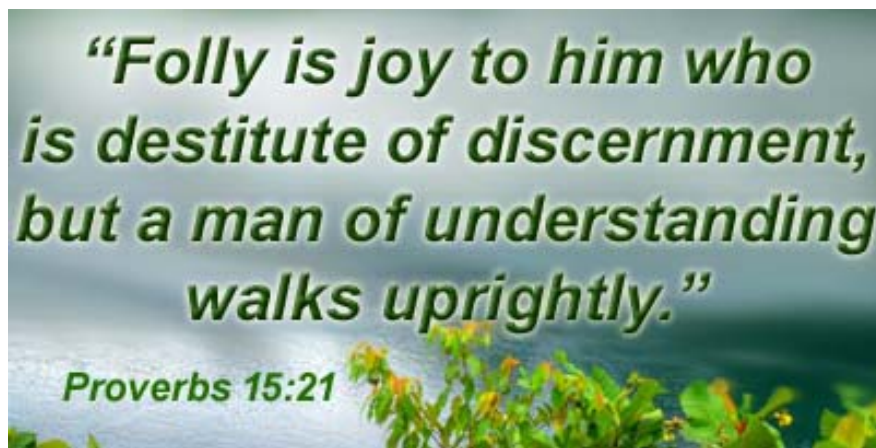
Then he further wrote:

Proverbs 2:1-5: "My son, if you receive my words, and treasure my commands within you, so that you incline your ear to wisdom, *and* apply your heart to understanding; yes, if you cry out for discernment, *and* lift up your voice for understanding, if you seek her as silver, and search for her as *for* hidden treasures; then you will understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God."

Therefore: Psalm 111:10: The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do *His commandments*."

Do I understand the need to seek discernment from God?

You may reproduce part of the content of this website for non-commercial purposes only. May not be reproduced or featured on any other websites without permission of "Christ At The Helm" author. For additional information or to obtain permissions, contact: christatthehelm1@gmail.com



Why do we need discernment in this world?

The core reason is obviously to avoid being deceived, to live righteously, and as well to have the ability to help, instruct, encourage and lead people into the truths of God.

In 1 Corinthians 2:14 Paul said, “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.”

Why?

1Corinthians 2:10-11: “For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. 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.”

The purpose being:

Philippians 1:10-11: “That you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, being filled with the fruits of righteousness which *are* by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.”

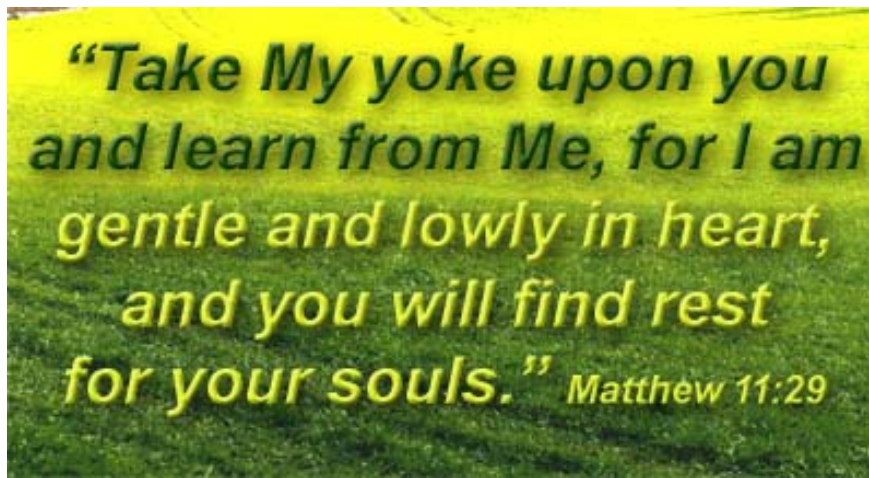
Therefore:

Proverbs 15:14: “The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge.”

Ephesians 5:8: “You were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.”

Do I understand how important it is to know the Word of God, so I can discern right from wrong, and live to abide in Christ?

You may reproduce part of the content of this website for non-commercial purposes only. May not be reproduced or featured on any other websites without permission of “Christ At The Helm” author. For additional information or to obtain permissions, contact: christatthehelm1@gmail.com



How do we acquire discernment so we are not deceived?

Psalms 119:105: "Your Word *is* a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Obviously, God's Word is the only secure source of truth we have, so we can get discernment and live to follow Christ into eternal life.

Why?

Hebrews 4:12: "For the Word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

The purpose being:

Ephesians 5:8-10: "For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord."

Therefore:

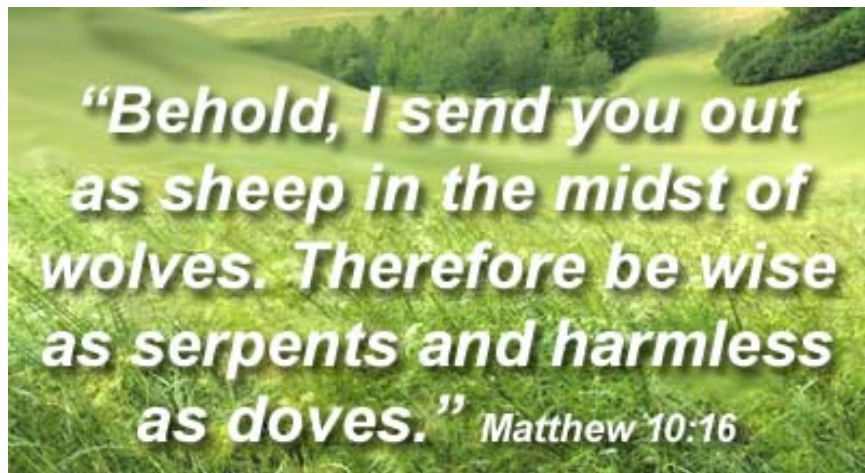
Proverbs 18:15: "The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge."

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

Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

Have I embraced the Word of God, and do I abide in Christ and follow Him?

You may reproduce part of the content of this website for non-commercial purposes only. May not be reproduced or featured on any other websites without permission of "Christ At The Helm" author. For additional information or to obtain permissions, contact: christatthehelm1@gmail.com



Our world attempts to push us in a materialistic godless existence that glorifies the flesh through feel good psychology. It doesn't establish any relevance to right and wrong. Everything becomes shades of the truth, thereby negating God's Word.

The reason we are warned:

1John 4:1: "Do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world."

Colossians 2:8: "Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ."

Why?

2corinthians 11:13: "For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ."

Matthew 24:24: "For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect."

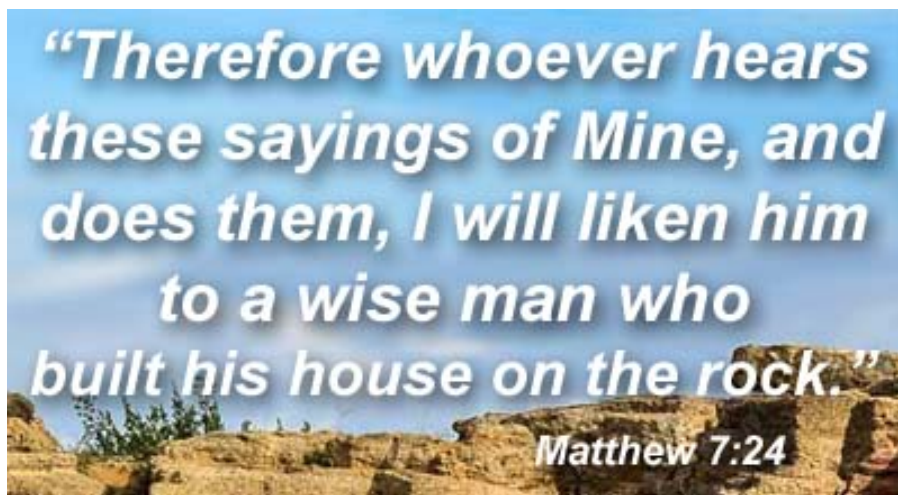
Therefore:

James 4:4: "Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God."

James 1:22: "Be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

Do I steadfastly seek discernment so as to avoid being deceived?

You may reproduce part of the content of this website for non-commercial purposes only. May not be reproduced or featured on any other websites without permission of "Christ At The Helm" author. For additional information or to obtain permissions, contact: christatthehelm1@gmail.com



When we consistently feed on the solid food of God's Word with the intent to serve Him, discernment becomes a way of life to guide us through every situation. That's how God's power works in our lives.

How so?

John 16:13: "When He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come."

1John 2:27: "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."

1John 3:2: "Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."

1John 4:4: "You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."

What's more?

Galatians 4:6: "And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"

Do I live in the power of discernment in following Christ at His Word?

You may reproduce part of the content of this website for non-commercial purposes only. May not be reproduced or featured on any other websites without permission of "Christ At The Helm" author. For additional information or to obtain permissions, contact: christatthehelm1@gmail.com