

HOLY SPIRIT POWER

July 1st, 2018 - Holy Spirit Power

Part 11

We continue this week on the Gift of the Discerning of Spirits and today we'll highlight the discerning of human spirits as last week we studied discerning angelic spirits and demonic spirits. This gift of the Discerning of Spirits is so needed in the body of Christ. As we continue to see the escalation of intrigue and craving for people to delve into the spirit realm or the supernatural, Christians have to discern what's of God, of the devil or of the human spirit.

As human beings, we are made up of a spirit, a soul and a body. The secular says from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia; *"The human spirit is a component of human philosophy, psychology, art, and knowledge - the spiritual or mental part of humanity. While the term can be used with the same meaning as "human soul", human spirit is sometimes used to refer to the impersonal, universal or higher component of human nature in contrast to soul or psyche which can refer to the ego or lower element. The human spirit includes our intellect, emotions, fears, passions, and creativity."*

Wikipedia also says this; *"Christians emphasise that the human spirit is the 'real person', the very core of a person's being, the essential seat of their existence. When a person accepts Jesus Christ as their Saviour, it is their human spirit that is transformed as they become 'new creatures' in Jesus Christ."*

If you've become born again of his Spirit, your body became a temple of the Holy Spirit, and he is transforming your human spirit by the Holy Spirit, to come in line with the Word of the Lord. It's called sanctification.

Let's look at some examples of people in the Bible that were operating in the human spirit. In the Old Testament we read about Isaac who is deceived by his son Jacob, who is impersonating to be his brother Esau. Had Isaac been able to discern this human spirit, he would have never given him a blessing.

You can read about it in [Genesis 27:1-29](#). Here is a portion of it in verses **18-29**; *"So he went to his father and said, "My father." And he said, "Here I am. Who are you, my son?" Jacob said to his father, "I am Esau your firstborn; I have done just as you told me; please arise, sit and eat of my game, that your soul may bless me." But Isaac said to his son, "How is it that you have found it so quickly, my son?" And he said, "Because the Lord your God brought it to me." Isaac said to Jacob, "Please come near, that I may feel you, my son, whether you are really my son Esau or not." So Jacob went near to Isaac his father, and he felt him and said, "The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau." And he did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau's hands; so he blessed him. Then he said, "Are you really my son Esau?" He said, "I am." He said, "Bring it near to me, and I will eat of my son's game, so that my soul may bless you." So he brought it near to him, and he ate; and he brought him wine, and he drank. Then his father Isaac said to him, "Come near now and kiss me, my son." And he came near and kissed him; and he smelled the smell of his clothing, and blessed him and said: "Surely, the smell of my son is like the smell of a field Which the Lord has blessed. Therefore may God give you of the dew of heaven, of the fatness of the earth, and plenty of grain and wine. Let peoples serve you, and nations bow down to you. Be master over your brethren, and let your mother's sons bow down to you. Cursed be everyone who curses you, and blessed be those who bless you!"*

You can see Isaac's wife, Rebekah, took matters into her own hands, instead of waiting to see how God would move. She knew from her pregnancy when these twins were in her womb, that God told her that the older of the two would serve the younger. But she operated in her human spirit to make this happen, even though she was a Godly woman and not evil. In her human spirit, she was deceiving her husband who was a Godly Patriarch. Both Rebekah and Jacob operated in their human spirits by lying and manipulating the blessing which was to go to Esau.

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Let's look at another example in the Old Testament where Tobiah and Sanballat hire a false prophet to deceive Nehemiah the prophet, but the human spirit is discerned by Nehemiah. You can read the full story here in [Nehemiah 6:1-14](#). Here is a portion of it in verses 8, 12 and 13 *“Then I sent to him, saying, ‘No such things as you say are being done, but you invent them in your own heart.’ ... 12 Then I perceived that God had not sent him at all, but that he pronounced this prophecy against me because Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him. 13 For this reason he was hired, that I should be afraid and act that way and sin, so that they might have cause for an evil report, that they might reproach me.”*

Nehemiah perceived or discerned, that this was of the human spirit, it was a set up and that this man was a hireling to prophecy lies.

There are people in the church today who are impersonating to be Christians but are really wolves in sheep's clothing. Jesus said this in **Matthew 7:15-20**; *“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore by their fruits you will know them.”*

When the gift of discerning human spirits is in operation, it's important to keep in mind that they (the person who is being discerned), can repent of their sins and God will forgive them, so it's good to not expose them publicly, but rather privately giving them an opportunity to repent and receive forgiveness. However, if after being exposed privately they continue in sin, God may very well make it public to set an example in the church (Matthew 18:15-17).

When a prophet is prophesying out of his own heart and deceiving people for the love of money, or some kind of personal gain or someone else's gain, he is operating in a human spirit, that is skilled at the art of fraud, with the religious pretence, but really is a wolf in sheep's clothing. These are religious prophets, not possessed by demons but prophesying out of their human spirit. They know the right words to say, the right button to push, the right song to play to work on the emotions of people, to ultimately gain control and manipulate you for their gain.

There are prophets who are possessed by a familiar spirit (demonic) and there are prophets who are simply speaking presumptuously out of their own human spirit.

Deuteronomy 18:21-22 says; *“And if you say in your heart, ‘How shall we know the word which the Lord has not spoken?’— when a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him.”*

The false prophet Hananiah, who spoke from his own human spirit, was judged by God. We read this in **Jeremiah 28:10-17**; *“Then Hananiah the prophet took the yoke off the prophet Jeremiah's neck and broke it. And Hananiah spoke in the presence of all the people, saying, ‘Thus says the Lord: ‘Even so I will break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from the neck of all nations within the space of two full years.’” And the prophet Jeremiah went his way. Now the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, after Hananiah the prophet had broken the yoke from the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, saying, “Go and tell Hananiah, saying, ‘Thus says the Lord: “You have broken the yokes of wood, but you have made in their place yokes of iron.” For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: “I have put a yoke of iron on the neck of all these nations, that they may serve Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; and they shall serve him. I have given him the beasts of the field also.”’” Then the prophet Jeremiah said to Hananiah the prophet, “Hear now, Hananiah, the Lord has not sent you, but you make this people trust in a lie. Therefore thus says the Lord: ‘Behold, I will cast you from the face*

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of the earth. This year you shall die, because you have taught rebellion against the Lord.’ So Hananiah the prophet died the same year in the seventh month.”

Jeremiah discerned the human spirit that Hananiah prophesied out of and in return prophesied Gods judgement on the false prophet. This might help to explain the untimely deaths of many Christians who have prophesied out of their own spirits for personal gain or the gain of others.

It says this of Jesus Christ in the book of **John 2:23-25**; *“Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did. But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men, and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man.”* Jesus knew the human spirit of man.

A good example of someone who operated in the human spirit is Peter when he denied Jesus Christ during his trial before the religious leaders. It says in **John 18:15-17**; *“And Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Now that disciple was known to the high priest, and went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest. But Peter stood at the door outside. Then the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to her who kept the door, and brought Peter in. Then the servant girl who kept the door said to Peter, “You are not also one of this Man’s disciples, are you?” He said, “I am not.”*

It continues in **verses 25-26** where Peter denies Jesus twice more; *“Now Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. Therefore they said to him, “You are not also one of His disciples, are you?” He denied it and said, “I am not!” One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of him whose ear Peter cut off, said, “Did I not see you in the garden with Him?”*

We need to remember that Peter was a Godly man, he wasn’t full of an evil spirit, but he was operating in his human spirit. **Matthew 10:32-34** says; *“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” “Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.”*

Luke 9:23-26 says; *“Then He said to them all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His own glory, and in His Father’s, and of the holy angels.”*

Let’s look at this closely. We just read that Peter denied Jesus three times. Peters actions clearly show that regardless of how close he was with Christ, and his confession to Jesus about willing to die with him, we see that the human spirit is about self preservation. That’s what happened to Peter. He didn’t want to possibly be crucified or flogged with Jesus. Instead of saying, ‘yes, I’m a disciple’, he denied Christ. In the same way, self preservation can and will hinder your Christian walk if it is not brought under the complete lordship of Christ by the Holy Spirit.

Had Peter died that night with out repenting of his denial of being a disciple Jesus he would have been judged and denied by Christ and would have been separated from God for eternity in hell. Jesus made it clear that if you deny him, he’ll deny you.

All the more reason we are in need of the Gifts of Holy Spirit to help us keep our human spirit from denying His lordship in our lives.

It’s important for you to take a good look at your life and see where you’ve allowed your human spirit to deny Jesus by rejecting the gifts of the Holy Spirit in exchange for a nominal faith that is void of the

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supernatural. It's a form of denial. When you reject and deny the gift of the Holy Spirit who has been freely given to you, or even if you've operated in these gifts that we're talking about and then deny that you do because you're afraid, intimidated or step into self preservation because of public or nominal church opinion or even persecution; aren't you also operating in denial? It's not saying the judgment of hell is on you if you'd die that you'd go to hell, but it's denial just the same. When you deny the Holy Spirits work in and through you or others, you deny Jesus.

Rejecting the Gifts of the Spirit is nothing more than a work of humanism that has crept into the Church and will ultimately have you denying Jesus somewhere down the road while under persecution. As Jesus says, a little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough, so your denial may start out small and almost obscure, but it will grow if you don't repent. In these end times we're living in, you need the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit to be able to stand in the midst of persecution.

The American Humanist Association's moto is "*Good without God*". They say; "*Humanism is a progressive lifestance that, without theism or other supernatural beliefs, affirms our ability and responsibility to lead meaningful, ethical lives capable of adding to the greater good of humanity.*"

2 Timothy 3:1-7 talks about this mindset and how people will live, think and operate in the last days. It says; "*But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.*"

Sound familiar? These are the times we are in right now, having a form of godliness but **denying** its power always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. Do you have a form of Godliness but deny its power and are you always learning but never able to come to the truth? Don't allow the human spirit to deny the Holy Spirit, because without the Holy Spirit you're separated from God for eternity, the Holy Spirit is your only ticket to heaven, not your human spirit.

After Peter got filled with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, he had the power to lay down his life for Christ and build the early church, prior to this he denied being a Christian. This is a powerful example to us today.

As Christians, we have the trinity or triune God abiding in us; God the Father, God the Son (Jesus) and God the Holy Spirit. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and the Holy Spirit has now given gifts to us who receive his infilling. When we deny Holy Spirit and these gifts, we deny the absolute best of the supernatural of God. You will end up resorting to your human spirit and inevitably will make mistakes because you're only led by your human spirit. Your human spirit will lead you down roads where you're not to go and even prophecy of things that are not of God as we've studied today. It will have you believe, embrace and even teach lies as we've studied today because it's birthed from your human spirit. Humanism will get you to deny your faith in Jesus and the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit and have you stay in the natural realm.

This has crept into the church today. Churches today deny the Holy Spirit. Just like the serpent lied to Eve in the Garden of Eden saying 'did God really say'... so satan is saying the same thing about the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit today. The human spirit and condition will continually try to rationalize and reason away the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit.

In closing, let's read **1 Corinthians 2:14**; "*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."*

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The Apostle Paul couldn't have been clearer or forthright. The human spirit will always get you to walk in the natural. Only the Holy Spirit abiding in you will teach you the truth. Repent if you've rejected the work of the Holy Spirit. Learn how to discern the spirits of those who are in the pulpit, pew, congregation and those you fellowship with and listen to. It is of utmost importance to discern between the human spirit and the Holy Spirit.

We read a good script by Bob Snook. It's entitled 'Therapy'. [Please click on this link to read it.](#)