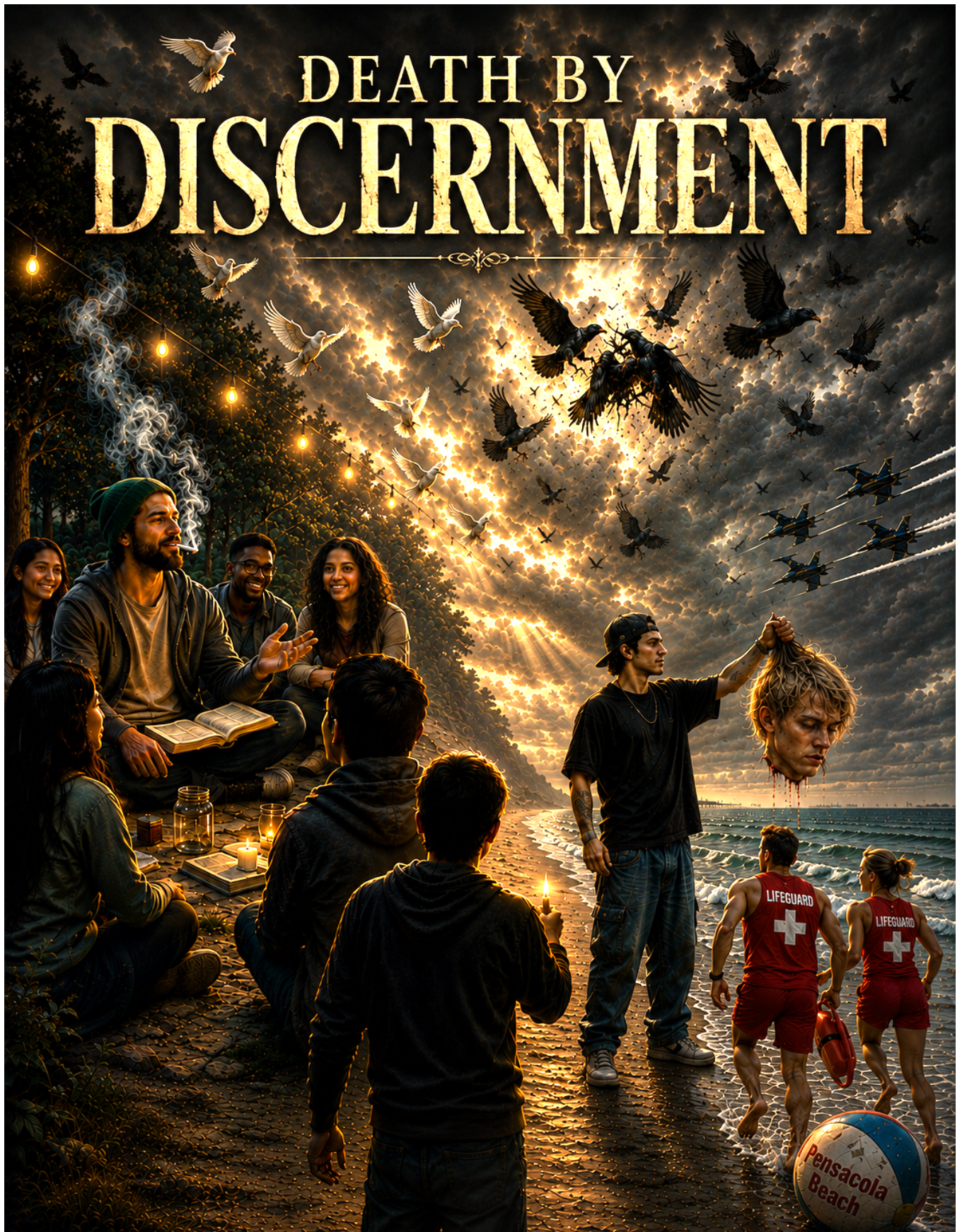


DEATH BY DISCERNMENT



People can spell it, pronounce it, and put on a great show as they demonstrate it to others. DISCERNMENT, the word I love to hate! It is one of the most spiritual words that has been abused and misused within today's spiritual walk.

Are you yourself confident that you can describe to another person how the Holy Spirit will interact with them? Or will it be broken-up Bible sayings that sound like a riddle, ending with, "Just have faith"? This may sound ridiculous, but how can you be so sure it is not heartburn or simply a chill within you that creates a discerning spiritual misinterpretation?

This question is vital because many people claim to understand discernment, yet few can explain how the Holy Spirit truly communicates with us. Are you listening to Him, or are you listening to your own made-up version of Him, do not let your own imagination get in the way of how the Holy Spirit is actually working inside you.

Travel back to the beginning to understand the transformation of the Holy Spirit within us over the course of time since creation!

Genesis 1:2

And the earth was a formless and desolate emptiness, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

The Spirit of Yahweh has surrounded mankind since creation.

Psalms 143:10 (NASB)

"Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground."

Within the Old Testament, we find that the Spirit of Yahweh is like the wind guiding us towards Yahweh's breath of desires.

Isaiah 30:21

"Your ears will hear a word behind you, 'This is the way, walk in it,' whenever you turn to the right or to the left."

From the beginning, the Spirit of Yahweh has animated and energized all of creation from its very first moment of life. During those times, those who desired to breathe in the Holy Spirit were transformed to follow Yahweh's desired path.

Next we should ask, "How does man's own spirit "soul" interact with the Spirit of Yahweh?"

Palms 32:2

How blessed is a person whose guilt the Lord does not take into account, And in whose spirit there is no deceit!

In the Old Testament, the word spirit is often more closely associated with the mind or consciousness of a person.

Do not confuse this with the heart, which refers more to a person's true will, desire, and intentions.

Palms 51:10-13

Create in me a clean heart, God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And sustain me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach wrongdoers Your ways, And sinners will be converted to You.

David clearly explains during his time, that our spirit within our hearts can be transformed to accept, or at least, to be influenced by Yahweh's Spirit into doing His will.

Isaiah 11:1-5

Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch from his roots will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And He will delight in the fear of the Lord, And He will not judge by what His eyes see, Nor make decisions by what His ears hear; But with righteousness He will judge the poor, And decide with fairness for the humble of the earth; And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked. Also righteousness will be the belt around His hips, And faithfulness the belt around His waist.

With a collection of spiritual failures after failures, a new creation in the heart is now needed for humanity. For the spiritual transformation to take effect, the Holy Spirit must now dwell within us.

The Holy Spirit moved from performing specific tasks to dwelling inside us. We are to live His "Life Style" not our own.

This is what the Old Testament prophets were pointing towards for new creation. To naturally live by Jesus' commands and sermon.

In Genesis we know Yahweh's Spirit hovered over the waters to create life out of darkness. In Matthew's Gospel, the Holy Spirit creates from darkness once again, this time, from inside Mary's womb.

Jesus now makes it possible for the Holy Spirit to dwell inside all believers. Rather than merely guiding us from the outside, the Holy Spirit transforms us from within, replacing intellectual knowledge with spiritual knowledge so that our inward intentions reflect Yahweh's desires through our outward daily actions.

This is why the death of our old selves is spiritually critical. The Holy Spirit was never meant to remain only as an external guide pointing us in the right direction. Jesus is transforming the very source from which our thoughts, intentions, and actions flow. The goal is no longer simply to make better choices through intellectual or biblical knowledge. The Old Testament has proven this to be impossible. The only way is to allow spiritual knowledge to reshape us from within, is to allow Yahweh's desires to become evident throughout our daily actions. Using discernment in the wrong way will delay Yahweh's desires. When you meet Jesus, do you really want to explain or try to justify why you chose to delay His will? By using intellect that has failed since creation.

Personally, the only thing I would like to hear Jesus say is "Bro, you have no idea why you're getting into heaven and I'm gonna tell you why." I don't wanna have to justify or to explain why I want something so badly when it's my last chance before Jesus. When it's time to decide our fate it will be too late. There are no second chances or do overs once we go to heaven and meet Jesus for our second judgment. We either remain in heaven or we are going to hell for eternity.

The Tale of Two Men

First Man,

The first man smokes cannabis. He tries to be friendly as he shines his light for all to see. He sits with people as they elevate their minds. As they are blazing and praising, he begins to preach and minister. His goal is to evangelize so others may find Jesus to be saved.

Second Man,

The Second man loved Yahweh. To show others his love he entered into a fight to demonstrate the strength, he claimed was a gift from the Holy Spirit. Once his fight was over he decapitated the other man, then picked up his head by the hair, so he could wave it around showing everyone how great their faith should be in Yahweh. He is not a bad man. His goal was to simply prove to others that we can accomplish great things within Yahweh.

Now I ask you:

Which person by using your discernment right now is best following Yahweh's desires and list why? This is very easy and an obvious choice.

You must choose one person and list why before proceeding.

Circle one: First or Second "Man"

You Must List Why Did You Choose That Man?

Most people will immediately choose the first man.

Because intellectual knowledge is judged by appearance. It is judged by what feels right, sounds right, and looks right.

Many times we think we know what Yahweh wants because we read the Bible. We then decide what looks good and what looks bad. We decide what appears right and what appears to be sinful.

Is this because we read scripture without being gifted to do so by the Spirit? We require biblical knowledge, when Jesus clearly says we only learn by parables.

Instead of asking, "What do I think is right or wrong?" spiritual knowledge asks nothing of the sort. As servants, we are to follow the Holy Spirit so that we may serve those who are in need.

We are not Yahweh. As soon as you begin asking, "If I were Yahweh, what would I do?" you should be very careful, because you are tip toeing dangerously close to spiritual adultery. He is our Master and Father. We are His servants and His children. We are not called to determine good and bad for ourselves.

Surprisingly, the second man was David, and he was holding the head of Goliath.

The lesson is not about which action appears better through human eyes. The lesson is whether we trust Yahweh's judgment or our own. By trusting Yahweh's judgment, His true desires are able to manifest through His outcome, rather than ours. This is why spiritual knowledge is necessary.

It should be clear that Intellectual knowledge is, eating from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. This knowledge has led humanity into exile, since creation.

Now that we've been banned from Eden, we no longer have access to the tree of knowledge. Satan is clever and created another tree of knowledge for us to eat from, and he called it the Bible. It's Satan's illusion of false security created to steal our salvation. Satan's tree of knowledge is the bible when used the wrong way. Being that I'm an idiot, let's ask Jesus.

John 5:39–40

You examine the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is those Scriptures that testify about Me; and you are unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life."

If Jesus wanted us to have biblical or intellectual knowledge, He would have commanded us to establish schools.

Matthew 7:21

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter."

If He wanted us to walk around carrying scriptures judging good and bad, He would have commanded us to do so. Instead we are told to follow His Father's will.

Do we need biblical knowledge? No, the Holy Spirit convicts unbelievers to come to Jesus and to become His followers. We are to simply share our testimonies causing others to be spiritually awakened and to follow the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

John 15:26-27

"When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me; and you will testify also, because you have been with Me from the beginning."

The only foundational knowledge that should be passed on is the spiritual knowledge found within your testimony and your witness of the Holy Spirit within your life.

Acts 1:8

"but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

Our testimonies and spiritual gifts bear witness to how the Trinity is present within our lives. Shine your light and tell others about Jesus, especially those who have never heard of Him, like we are commanded to do in the Great Commission.

Matthew 28:19-20

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to follow all that I commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

We sit vs Go. Then we wonder why people have a hard time evangelizing from church using biblical knowledge.

Telling others about Jesus should be simple, effortless, and easy. This is why sharing your testimony and witnessing is more valuable to the spirit than memorizing scripture.

Some even memorize Scripture for various reasons, such as overcoming fear or dealing with life's difficulties. This is biblical knowledge. It is the Spirit within, combined with prayer, fasting, and watching, that quiets mental distractions and brings spiritual clarity.

Hebrews 5:14

"...because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil."

Hebrews 5:14

"But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil."

Within the New Testament, discernment is less about human intelligence and more about spiritual perception guided by Yahweh's Spirit.

1 Corinthians 2:13

We also speak these things, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual *thoughts* with spiritual *words*.

This shows that human intellect alone cannot grasp spiritual truth. Paul says spiritual things are understood through spiritual discernment, which comes from the Spirit of God.

Jesus consistently teaches that spiritual truth is revealed by Yahweh, not discovered through human intelligence. He doesn't say humans discern on their own; rather, He teaches that the Father, the Spirit, and God's revelation enable a person to understand.

After Peter declares that Jesus is the Messiah:

Matthew 16:15-17

"He said to them, 'But who do you yourselves say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus said to him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.'"

Peter did not arrive at this truth through human reasoning of "flesh and blood". The Father revealed it.

Matthew 11:25

"I praise You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants."

The issue is not intelligence itself. The issue is that spiritual truth comes through revelation, not intellectual achievement. Establishing the idea that children are naturally receptive to spiritual knowledge

John 14:26

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you."

Jesus' attributes will dwell within so we can spiritually understand the ministry teachings of the Holy Trinity.

John 16:13

"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth..."

Jesus says the Spirit guides believers into truth. The Spirit is the guide; the believer follows.

John 6:44

"No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him..."

Even coming to Jesus begins with Yahweh's action, not human decision-making.

John 3:3

"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless someone is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Jesus says a person cannot even "see" the Kingdom apart from spiritual rebirth. Intellect must die to be reborn.

1 Corinthians 2:14

"The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God... because they are spiritually discerned."

Discernment is not a decision on whether something is good or bad nor is it based upon emotion derived from intellectual or biblical knowledge.

Discernment is like a candlestick with its flame burning brightly for us to follow. Imagine you are sitting in a room of complete darkness. A candle is lit in the distance. You have the free will to follow the light or to remain in darkness. Once you accept the light and choose to follow it, you have surrendered your free will to become a disciple and follower of Jesus. How could anyone confuse free will and discernment? They are not even marginally close to the same thing.

Our path has been predetermined within the manifestation of Yahweh's desires. We do not possess the spiritual knowledge to know Yahweh's plans. A servant does not decide for themselves which direction to go in.

It is our job to pray, fast, and to watch for the signs that align with Yahweh's desires after we have followed the Holy Spirit that illuminates our path. As soon as you begin to use your own knowledge, you are using intellectual knowledge, deciding and discerning between multiple spirits, which attack us through spiritual warfare. We are not supposed to rely upon our own knowledge to overcome worldly and spiritual attacks. Remember, we were literally exiled for that.

This is why Jesus provided His commands and only documented sermon: to help us understand how to follow spiritual knowledge. They are a reflection of ourselves, not a to do list. We are to look into those as though we are looking into a personal mirror. They will reflect the image within that needs to change, reminding us how to turn intellectual knowledge into spiritual knowledge. They are the BE attitudes not the DO attitudes. This should be the attitude in which we follow to ensure that our old selves are to remain dead.

We can then recognize, whether we are following our own desires or the desires of Yahweh. We must first serve and then follow to be able to see the fruit that transpires from our works of faith. The only question at that point for you to discern is which spirit am I following?

Surely, after reading all of this, you should know that it is not our choices or our discernment. It is our Father's, and we are to follow. We were created to do His will and fulfill His desires, not our own.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart. And do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.

Our bodies are a representation that naturally demonstrates how to walk spiritually. Just as our bodies retain nutrients that are beneficial while filtering out waste, we are not aware of this process; it is afterward that we discern which meals were most beneficial in preserving nutrients and which were wasteful.

In the same way, if your actions preserve spiritual nutrients in others, then afterward your discernment becomes evident. If your actions produce wastefulness, then you should immediately stop what you are currently doing. Only through prayer, fasting, and watching will our spiritual path be revealed, so that we may not only return back to Yahweh, but also live with Yahweh for eternity.

To simplify this, let's look at the ingredients from the three main meals we are to eat from when accepting Yahweh's nutrients for eternal life.

1. Trust in Yahweh, our logic is flawed and will lie to ourselves creating fear and poor decisions. When we trust in Him, we will lean toward His desires no matter the circumstances surrounding us. Even when they are too difficult for us to understand, not to decide. Yahweh ultimately knows the outcome and will lead us only to a fruitful path. One which will be blessed so we may share with others that are lost and in need.
2. Acknowledge Yahweh as our father. When He says, "Do this," then do it without trying to understand why. He leads us one step at a time. Scripture supports that you will not receive step two, until step one is complete. This is when Yahweh's will begins to unfold. As we faithfully follow our Father, each step brings us closer to His final destination for our lives. To know the will of our Father, we must take each step He gives us. Only then can we see His plan unfold before us and understand the path He has spiritually prepared. We do not discern along the way, that's how we remain lost. Instead, we pray, fast, and watch, to follow our Father's instructions and to spiritually learn from our actions after "His will" has been done. Understanding comes through obedience. It is only after we have walked the path He has given us that we can look back and see the wisdom, purpose, and lessons contained within each step. After reading this, are you being spiritually attacked by telling yourself that intellectual discernment between spirits still remains as an option for you to follow?
3. We are to follow His path of life, not our own. We will never know what lies ahead. Discernment arrives afterwards, by following the Holy Spirit to lead us. We are not meant to choose our own path through life; our path was already predestined without our approval. Our responsibility is simply to follow the path set before us and live the life Yahweh has prepared. This can be confusing if you cling to the thought that you are discerning your own spiritual path by guiding the Holy Spirit. He is here to guide us!

We try to discern daily, even hourly, and then analyze everything through intellectual or biblical knowledge. Do you really think you are discerning, hopefully not any longer? Doing so leads to a perfect storm or mental illness, being lost, confused, and trapped with worldly desires.

Again, discernment is deciding which spirit I am following within spiritual warfare. You could be in grave danger, not realizing you're discerning your way to death by following the wrong spirit. Overall, discernment is to keep us safe from following the wrong spirits, which I cannot emphasize enough, is done afterward, by measuring the fruit within our actions to ensure they always align with Yahweh's desires.

Just as the world of the flesh exists, so does the Spirit world. Opposing Spirits can attack us and lead us in the wrong direction. Their goal is to lead us downward. The Holy Spirit leads us upward to Yahweh.

We should now agree that discernment is not a choice, It's a path that reveals how our true selves can understand and be guided by the Holy Spirit. We must always ensure we give our free will to the right spirit by looking back to see if the fruit that transpired for others was for our lost sisters and brothers in need, per Jesus' command and sermon.

In this war, how do we know sooner, rather than later which Spirit we are following? Most of all know this, there is no mathematical formula to follow, when following Yahweh. Have faith that Grace, Mercy, and the Holy Spirit's gifts will always supersede what is in the path of Yahweh's desires.

Of course, there are always exceptions, when gifted by the Holy Spirit, with the gift of discernment. That is the time when we really start to discern, and more so, to help others who are unable to discern which spirit is within other people.

Are you able to look into someone and recognize their true heart's intentions? Are you aware of their motives and whether they align with Yahweh's desires? If not, then you may not possess the gift of discernment given by the Holy Spirit. Do you think that is an issue? It can quickly turn into a very negative situation for your salvation.

The fruit of the Spirit is what saves us, it's what we all must eat from in order to be safe. Maybe looking at it from a garden's perspective will allow this concept to be rooted within you. As a metaphor, let's say each tree within the garden of Eden possesses a spiritual fruit for us to eat from. And each tree has a spiritual gift, and as we eat from that tree, we receive that gift to benefit others in need.

This is exactly how we should be living spiritually. We should all be coming together as trees in a garden and only eating from the ones that truly have been tested. Some have a special gift that has been given to them by the Holy Spirit so they may feed other brothers and sisters spiritual advice to ensure they're walking within Yehway's desires. This is a congregation. This is a church. This is one body. This is how we get into heaven. I really hope you're understanding spiritual knowledge and discernment, and the way in which it should be lived out.

Yahweh has also given us good common sense and judgment to use. If someone is trying to sell you a special device that claims it can communicate with Spirits so you can speak with the Holy Spirit within you, common sense and good judgment should tell you to run away. That is not discernment.

Discernment is not referring to the biblical knowledge of Scripture that you have buried inside your mind to determine whether what you are doing, or should be doing, is right or wrong. That is biblical knowledge with you determining good and evil for yourself. That is not spiritual knowledge, and it is far from true discernment.

Discernment is for the booby traps of life that seek to steal our salvation. These traps occur daily, and we must pay attention, to ensure we are following the Holy Spirit always seeking Yahweh's desires. When an individual has clearly demonstrated the true gift of discernment given by the Holy Spirit, that may be the type of person we should seek Spiritual advice from. Remember, any gift given by the Holy Spirit is for the benefit of others, not for ourselves.

Did intellectual knowledge all start with one deceptive quote of partial scripture?

satan tricked us all by not quoting Yahweh accurately saying to Eve; As Yahweh said, "From any tree of the garden you may surely eat." Then humans decided, using intellectual knowledge, rather than Spiritually trusting in Yahweh. This is why Jesus provided His commands and His documented sermon: to help us understand how to naturally follow spiritual knowledge. In this way, the teachings of Jesus become more than words to read. They become a mirror to examine ourselves, a light to guide our steps, and a reminder of the narrow path that leads toward Heaven.

Now that we understand spiritual knowledge, we must understand how to obtain and to use this spiritual knowledge. As in Eden, it all started with life and with food and how we feed ourselves. Obviously Adam and Eve ate from a tree that the Holy Trinity found to be a disgusting food for us to eat from.

It's as if we picked food up from the ground that was covered in the dirtiest filth you can imagine. Would you eat that even though it was your favorite food? What if I forced it down your throat? Would you eat it then? Or would you just spit it out? If you did eat it, how would that feel? Would you enjoy it? Would that make you happy? So imagine the waist that we feed the Holy Spirit within us!

This is critical. Ask yourself. How do you feed the Holy Spirit that dwells inside of you? Remember, to remain spiritually strong against physical and mental attacks, you must feed the Holy Spirit, His favorite food, which is found in Jesus's commands and one and only sermon. That is the fruit that feeds the spirit that dwells within.

Is it possible that, as true believers & followers grow older, our minds are transformed back into a child's way of thinking so that we may have one last chance to enter Heaven through spiritual knowledge, leaving intellectual knowledge behind to die forever? Are elderly blessed when they start to lose control of their bodily functions, act childish, or experience memory issues? Is it an indication of something greater? Maybe a safety measure protecting us from intellect as we approach death, so we may have a graceful second judgment in Heaven. I believe the Holy Spirit may pass through us, cleansing away intellectual knowledge so that we may be spiritually reborn like a child, ready to enter Heaven before we pass away. Perhaps that is why many older people begin acting more like children again. Our memories may just decline with old age, so that we may be spiritually protected against our own intellect.

Let me sum it up. It's like the Nike slogan: "Just do it." Jesus knows we are sinners. We know we are sinners, and we are going to make mistakes. So the best thing we can do is go through our daily lives being guided by what the Holy Spirit is leading us to do, using sound judgment and common sense, not being idiots or fools. But also not relying solely on biblical knowledge or intellectual knowledge. Instead, be like a kite flying on the perfect day. When the Spirit provides the wind, let it carry you. You never know what you might find.

If you feel as though you are heading into danger, remember that Jesus Himself was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the slander, another name for the devil. So if you think you are discerning your way out of trouble, how do you know that what you are avoiding is not a test, a trial, or a tribulation that you are meant to go through? Again, you may be delaying God's will without realizing it. You may not know what you should be doing or which direction you should be going because you are relying on the wrong kind of knowledge.

PART 4 "Mental Health For Dummies" IS NEXT IN SERIES...