

## VOICE RECOGNITION

Voice recognition software technology will be used more frequently in the future. It is used to gain access to places and it also enables a person to type things on their computer 3x faster than manually. However, simple voice recognition has been around for thousands of years.

Blind Isaac was deceived into giving his blessing to Jacob instead of to Esau. He recognized the voice that came to him as being Jacob, but the hairy skin made him believe that it was Esau instead. - Genesis 27

We all have been deceived at times in various ways, but to improve our discernment levels, we need to be able to identify the nature and purpose of the two principle voices that seek to influence us through our thoughts. **Thoughts lead to words, actions and feelings**, that is why they must be screened carefully.

### Voice & Nature

### Screen the thought or idea

|            |                |  |
|------------|----------------|--|
| <b>GOD</b> | <b>Creator</b> | <b>Is this creative and helpful or harmful and destructive?</b>  |
|            | Light          | Does this promote honesty, openness and purity?  |
|            | Love           | Does this bring unity, harmony or division and fear?   |
|            | Truth          | Is this idea contrary to the Word of God?  |
|            | Life           | Is this life giving and inspiring or bring despair?  |
|            | Comforter      | Does this bring hope, comfort, edification and encouragement?  |
|            | Eternal        | God is Lord of time and eternity. Is this something that will make eternal positive difference directly or indirectly? |
|            | All Knowing    | God knows our heart and our motives. Does this idea feed my pride and selfishness or glorify God?                      |
|            | All powerful   | Does this thought limit God?   |

Before the thought is to be expressed in words.....check God for the timing of it. Sometimes he wants us to wait on it. Even if an idea is good, it may not be God's best for the situation or time.

God speaks to us through His Spirit, His Word, angels, visions, dreams, prophetic words, music, spontaneous thoughts etc.

**The other prevalent voice source is from the adversary.** His thoughts permeate the world system, the fallen nature of mankind and also come through his myriad of evil seducing spirits roaming the world today. He also speaks through fallen angels and forbidden things listed in Deuteronomy 18:9-11. The word devil means **Slanderer / Accuser**. He has various other names and descriptions in the Bible such as Abaddon

(destroyer). Satan was formerly named Lucifer (morning star or shining one) but became proud of his beauty and rebelled against God. - Isaiah 14:11-15, Ezekiel 28: 11-19

| <u>VOICE</u> | <u>NATURE</u> | <u>THOUGHTS AND ACTIONS</u>  |
|--------------|---------------|--|
| <b>Satan</b> | Adversary     | Wars against God and his plans, purposes and people  |
|              | Tempter       | Lures people to sin in order to bring shame, guilt etc   |
|              | Accuser       | Attacks one's identity, self worth and actions, condemns   |
|              | Deceiver      | Gets people to believe lies  |
|              | Thief         | Seeks to steal man's dignity, inheritance and fruitfulness and to rob God of honor and glory   |
|              | Seducer       | His ideas can be very inviting, quick pleasure and rewards but the end result is a downward spiral unto dissatisfaction, dis- ease and death. He presents the beautiful side of evil as he can appear as an angel of light but it all turns out to be very bad and ugly. |

**My Encounter With an Evil spirit** - Nearly 40 years ago I went to the small village of Ripley, NY with a few friends from the campus Christian group from Fredonia University. It was a holistic health seminar of 4 meetings over the course of 4 weeks. On one week a Dr. Snow came from Erie, Pa. to talk about stress. He was introduced by the host couple as 'the most Christian man they had ever met.' As Dr. Snow began to speak, he was very captivating as he exuded love and warmth, but eventually he spoke of how he used hypnosis and meditation to help his patients overcome stress and to unleash the divine spark within them. He then quipped that he felt he was probably an alcoholic in a previous life. I realized at this point that he believed in reincarnation.

After an hour he finished his talk to the group of about 20 people. Afterwards I went forward to meet Dr. Snow and then said to him in a matter of fact way:

**'I think there is a scripture that says it is appointed unto man once to die'**

Suddenly this very kind and loving man vehemently retorted to me with these words:

**YOU HAVE YOUR BELIEFS AND I HAVE MINE!!!!!!**

I was shocked by his sudden outburst which revealed and exposed another spirit at work in him. Right after this I left with my friends and when I got back home I made a point to find the verse that I had quoted to him. Since then I have never forgotten its address..... Hebrews 9:27.

**It is appointed unto man once to die, and then the judgment.**

The next week at the seminar, a Presbyterian pastor gave a message related to health, but he began with these words: "By the way, the man that spoke last week was not a Christian". I was pleased and proud of the pastor.....a Presbyterian who still stood up for the truth.

Just a few years ago I happened to hear of the death of Dr. Snow in Erie. It reminded me of the moment many years before at the end of the meeting when I recognized that the voice out of Dr. Snow was an encounter with a seducing spirit.

Years later on the mission field I would encounter many strange beliefs and entities. Most importantly, I grew to have confidence in the God who protects me and guides me with his Spirit and desires for me to always be alert to his presence and the voice I have learned to recognize. It is the Spirit of truth - John 16:13.

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