

## Title: Due Diligence and Discernment, Part 2

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I spoke last week on the word called, "Rise in Due Diligence and Discernment." So, I am going to review briefly about, "due diligence," then we will get into the discernment part that He is connecting with due diligence, today. Say, "Thank you, Jesus."

### John 5:17

Jesus said, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working."

### John 10:25-27

"The works that I do, I do in my Father's name," and those works bear witness of Jesus.

### John 10:37-38

Jesus was constantly revealing the Father's heart, His love, and His ways. He revealed His acts. He showed the peoples the intent of the Father's heart through the power that He walked in, and through the works that He demonstrated. If you want to see God the Father, you see Jesus. If you want to know what is in the Father's heart, you see what Jesus does and has done. We honor the power of Jesus Christ. We don't want a form of religion that is dead. That will profit us nothing. As we abide and remain in Him, He says, "It will bear much fruit for Him." If we are abiding in the true vine, if we are abiding in Jesus Christ, if we are abiding in His Word, and if we have Holy Spirit inside of us, then the Father's works are in us. The Spirit oversees those works in every individual. It is up to us to believe.

Jesus rebuked those that did not believe. It is crazy when you know that some of the works that He did no one could have done before. He was the first to do some of these works, and they still would not believe that He was from God. That power kills the religious spirit of unbelief. He is laboring and will continue to labor in the Father's works until we see Him face to face. He nails it with the real revelation of, "I am in the Father, and He is in me." That's it. "If you have seen me, you have seen my Father, if you have seen the Father, you have seen me." That's it. That is the greatest revelation that we see through this. He is calling us to do the works of God. He is calling the saints to do the work of God and do the works of Jesus. We are not to be lazy or apathetic, right? We are not to be in a stupor, slumber or sleeping. But, we are to be active, alert, watching and praying. Going about our Father's business, and doing what He has asked us to do individually and corporately.

As believers in Jesus Christ, our lives are reflecting His. As believers in Jesus Christ, our lives are reflecting His every day. We are to exercise due diligence in our lives and live according to His Word. We are to put forth effort, make righteous decisions, use caution, and search for wisdom in all things. Be observant and exercise reasonable care in different matters in life. We are to guard and watch over what has been entrusted to us to keep spiritually, physically, emotionally, and financially.

### Colossians 4:2

We are to continue earnestly in prayer and be vigilant in it with thanksgiving.

### 1 Peter 5:8

We are to "be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil walks around like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour."

Proverbs 4:23

“We are to keep our heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.”

Proverbs 4:23 NLT

“Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.”

Wow, God always looks at the heart. We talked about this in depth last week. Everything comes from the heart. The Holy Spirit encouraged us to use the spiritual gifts He provides for us daily.

Romans 12:6

“Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them.” Use what you have. Let us use them. That is due diligence. Use what God has given you. Don't despise the day of small beginnings. Don't despise what God has given to you. But, give God praise for that. Don't compare yourself to others. Just use what you have. When you use what you have with due diligence, it is going to multiply itself, because that is the Kingdom.

Romans 12:8

“He who leads, lead with diligence.” We talked about how every one of us in the body of Christ are leaders. We are called to lead. The body of Christ is called to lead. You say, “Well I don't feel like a leader? Well, you are, okay.” Different leaders have different roles and functions. We don't all look the same, but every one of us are called to lead. If we are leading with due diligence, the Kingdom of Heaven is going to multiply. Righteousness is going to prevail in the land. Your witness will, as we said earlier, be a light for all to see. We are to live our life devoted to God, His heart, and His Word. Devotion is a big word. Hopelessly devoted to God and His Word is not religion.

II Timothy 2:15

“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

John 15

That comes through abiding in Him and in His Word. Living the lifestyle of abiding prayer and bearing much fruit for the Lord. We want it to be in our hearts to say, “Father, I want to bear much fruit for you. Bless me, fill me, take over my life, so I can bear much fruit for you.” The fact that we are even aware of that is a miracle. God can use us from the eldest to the youngest, so that we can bear much fruit for the Father. That is how He is glorified, amen.

The Lord said to, “rise in due diligence and discernment.” He is linking these together. God does not want His family to lack. There is a scripture that says, “There is no lack in the house of the righteous.” I pray that every day. Now, you believe it or not. But, when you believe what the Word says, in the covenant you have with God, everything you have will line up with His word. When you believe in your heart, that is showing yourself approved unto God. Because you take Him at His word, that is what will change our circumstances. Praise God. God does not want His family to lack.

He does not want us to lack in discernment. We will briefly discuss what discernment is. It simply means, “to perceive.” That is a big word, “perception,” *to perceive by sight, or some other sense, or by your intellect. To see, to recognize, to apprehend its perception. To distinguish mentally, to recognize as distinct or even different. It can even be a judicial*

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*estimation, where you have to discern true from false, legal or not legal, right and wrong, or what is above and what is beneath.*

#### I Corinthians 12:10

Discernment is a gift of the Holy Spirit. In the list of the gifts of the Spirit, discerning of spirits is listed. Father has chosen to give to us His discernment. Wow. Through the Holy Spirit, He has chosen to give us perception, the ability to perceive and to see clearly. He has chosen to let us understand intellectually what is going on, and to be able to apprehend or divide right from wrong, light from dark, good from evil, halfway, lawlessness, and lukewarmness. He gives us this understanding from His heart, and He wants us to be in due diligence in the discerning of spirits.

It is amazing to me that it has been around forever with God. Yet to every generation, He gives what we need in the moment of our walk and time. There are times when humanity has needed great wisdom. I am sure at different times when the peoples have been on the planet, they think, "Man, the wisdom I am seeing is greater than what I ever saw my father or my grandfather walk in." Because God knew in that time and in that era, they needed great wisdom. Do you understand? It can be anything from God, the Father. When He is pouring out His Spirit, all these things are available through the Spirit, and every saint has opportunity to partake of these.

But, when He is pouring fresh oil and says, "You guys need due diligence right now and great discernment," then my ear is hearing what the Spirit of the Lord is saying. The beauty in that is it is not just for, "Fred or her," it is for you. It is for me. I believe that He can impart this to those children who are born again. They just "know." Discernment is the supernatural discerning. It is supernatural. Supernatural, it is not normal. Okay, don't think human here, but think supernatural. I am always exalting the Holy Ghost and the power of Jesus. It is the ability to know if a spirit is the Holy Spirit, a human spirit, a demonic spirit, or an angelic spirit. What kind of spirit is it? Jesus demonstrated His anointing of discernment in a teachable moment with His disciples, James and John. Many are familiar with this.

#### Luke 9:51-56

This is in the heart of God, and we love His heart. *Jesus was in the region of Samaria.* This is a powerful testimony. Most people have heard of this story. No doubt there was great support for Jesus through these two disciples. They were on fire. They had the name of "sons of thunder." They had a righteous cause. They were ticked off because these people did not receive Jesus. They didn't listen to Him, right? So, James and John, just went a step forward out of the God given authority that they had in them of the spirit of Elijah, and said, "Can we just call fire down from heaven and wipe them out? That will show them." They are growing in their authority. They are watching Jesus do the works of God. They are just trying to follow after this amazing man. They just get ahead of the game, and He has to rebuke them. Thank God He rebukes us, or we would get in trouble. Right? Jesus says, "You don't know what manner of spirit you are of."

That is the discerning of spirits. What spirit are they speaking out of? He brings the truth that I love. He didn't just rebuke them without understanding. He says, "For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them," and that was His purpose in His first coming. Later there will be a time when the fire will fall. There will be a time when the judgment of God and the fire of God will fall. It is in our Bible, right? The wrath of God, the judgment of God and of Jesus Christ shall come to those who have not believed in Him and who are not in Christ Jesus. That will come. But right now, we are called to walk with Him and to seek and save the lost. To heal, deliver, manifest the good news of the Gospel of the Kingdom, to feed, to help, to assist, to govern righteously, to legislate, to walk in executive offices of apostles, prophets,

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evangelists, pastors and teachers to help govern the house of God and maintain the glory of the Lord. That we can maintain and do the works of the Father until He calls us home. The spirit of discernment interprets and brings understanding. That is what He was doing.

#### I John 4:1

We teach all of this intensively in our school of ministry. I am giving you a quick overview today. "Do not believe every spirit." That means that not every spirit is from God or His Kingdom. "Do not believe every spirit." He gave us a clue. Test them to see whether they be from God. He is showing us that we have authority and Holy Spirit is going to help us. "Are you from God? Or, are you not?" The spirit that just told me to do this, "Do you call Jesus Christ your Lord and Savior? Do you worship and serve Him only? Answer me now in Jesus' mighty name."

That is the testing of the spirit, even inside of your own being. What you just "know that you know," that is the right way to go. But, the spirit of discernment is speaking to you. "Nope." "Well, that is the way we have always done it." He says, "Nope, this is the way, walk in it." You hear a word behind you. You feel that stirring in your soul. All of a sudden, you recognize that God, the Holy Ghost, is trying to show you something. You can feel it within you. You can feel that something is just not right. You continue to show due diligence in seeking that out and to hear what the Father is doing. How is He working now in this situation, so that I can walk in line with Him.

Thank God, we have been given the authority to test the spirits. Don't be offended if you test it, and it is the Holy Ghost. "Well, it is just me." You are just following the Word of God. Right? He is not offended. Hallelujah. He wants us to know the truth, because the truth that we know will set us free. He leads us into all truth. Thank God! Through the discerning of spirits, you will be able to know the spirit of it. The spirit in which something is done or even said. You all know when something is said, and it is in the wrong spirit. You know. He gives us the ability to know impure motives even in the heart, mind, will, or emotions. It was impure. It is not right.

Just as we talked about, James and John, they were just off a little bit and wanting to "fry" the people who did not believe Jesus. God has to get us right. It is just the truth. I think that God loves our righteous zeal, but we have to submit it, or the zeal can take us off course. Scripture says, "The zeal of the Lord has consumed me." That is what we want. Right? We want the zeal of the Lord. "The zeal the Lord is in the Father's house." We want that. Wow, thank God He manages us.

#### Acts 5:1-11

This is the story of Ananias and Sapphira. Great fear came upon all the church and upon all who heard these things. This is real. This really happened. The discerning of spirits was used here through Peter in the offerings being given. Holy Ghost knew that they had lied in their hearts. Then He revealed that to Peter. He had no way of knowing that, right? That's the gift of the discerning of spirits. He didn't blame it on a demon. It was the motive of their heart. Do you understand? He searches and He knows the impure motives in the heart, the mind, the will, and emotions. The discerning of spirits will lead you into a deeper understanding and knowing of the Lord's ways as well as the ways of the enemy. We have a whole Bible to back that up. Okay, so abide. How are you going to know His ways? Abide in Him. How are you going to know His thoughts? Read the Word. You want to know His heart? Read the word and abide. Abide and show yourself approved. Study, seek, ask, thirst, worship, and pray, amen.

#### II Corinthians 11:13-16

We understand that the enemy can disguise himself and come as false apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers, and peoples, right? There is nothing new under the sun. Holy Ghost warns the church to have due diligence in this through the discerning of spirits.

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The church has to have leaders who walk in due diligence, especially over prophecy and over givings and finances. We have to exercise due diligence in great discernment to know, because “some see in part and know in part.” Part A could be right on, but Part B was their flesh. You have to be able to know and discern that. He is calling them out, because evil men existed then, they still exist, and will continue to get worse in deceiving even themselves. We read that last week. The church has been warned through the Holy Ghost in the discerning of spirits. It is really nice when they say, “Hi, I am a satanist, or I am a witch and here is my job.” But, the evil one works better when he comes in saying, “Hi, I am an apostle.” But, he is not, and they are deceiving and being deceived. They are a “wolf in sheep's clothing,” according to scripture.

That is why Jesus rebuked the Pharisees. He says, “You don't know me. You are not mine. You are of another spirit.” Correct? What you discern will lead you into experience which has the ability to give you gained authority and maturity. When we were tricked, deceived, went through something, saw it happen or we read about it, then we see the testimony and we see the word itself. We have to know that everything we go through in discernment is a lesson in discernment. We have all missed it at least once. When you miss it, you have to know that everything you are going through in this life produces gained authority. Say, “gained authority.” I know you love this verse in scripture.

#### Romans 5:3-5

Even though we are going through tribulation, we persevere under trial, look up, and have hope. Knowing that character is being worked in us. James and John went through it, but they learned. They received the correction. It takes humility to receive correction. Even when you think you are right. After all, they were trying to protect the Son of God. They were trying to honor the Son of God. Right? He is showing us due diligence today in discernment. You can expect a fresh impartation of discernment today.

#### Hebrews 5:12-14

Discern both good and evil. He says we cannot just stay on the milk, right? We have to mature. We have to grow up. Even a newborn baby once they are born again, God can do so much in them. They don't have to take thirty years to get there like you did. God is always increasing. We can all receive a revelation, even as a babe, because the Spirit knows what we can and what we can't handle. Here you see the solid food belongs to those who are full age. Those who are maturing by reason of use. Every time we show due diligence and work for God, using what He has given us and has entrusted to us, our senses are being exercised. They are being matured to discern, as we obey God. As we do what God has told us to do, we are growing in discernment. As we mature, we know good from evil. Isn't that amazing? As we love God, obey God, keep God's commandments, and fear God, we are growing in discernment. We desperately need it now more than ever. True discernment really works closely with the spirit of knowledge and the word of God.

#### Hebrews 4:12-13

We may not see it, but He does. We all must give account. Even our work shall be judged at the judgment seat of Christ. That is a good thing. As you are abiding in the word, you are praying the word, you are seeking His face, and you hear the Spirit bring the word. He will come and He will do this. He is able to divide for you, and separate good from evil thoughts and intents of the heart. All of a sudden you feel like, “I don't think that is the right motive, or why do I know that right now?” Because, that is the Spirit of the Lord and the word of God. The discerning of spirits is kicking in. Now, we have a choice to respond. The discerning of spirits works closely with the spirit of wisdom and understanding, and knowledge and revelation. We teach here what you will know in understanding the different spirits. Listen to this. We have Holy Spirit, praise God. Holy Spirit is God. Yes, and you need Holy Spirit to be Lord. Don't leave Him out. Many have just seen Him as being in the Godhead. But, He is still moving today.

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He brings power, He baptizes in the Holy Spirit and fire. He comes to bring the saints into the fullness and into the gifts, callings and anointings that God has for us. So, we can be just like Jesus and move like Him in understanding different spirits. You say, "Holy Spirit was here today. Holy Spirit said this to me. Holy Spirit is leading and guiding me in all truth. I love Holy Spirit. We had new revelation knowledge of Holy Spirit. We went deeper with Holy Spirit." You pray in tongues. You are communing. He is giving you dreams and visions. He is imparting new gifts to you. That is wonderful. We understand that. There is growth needed there. There is always more as we say.

There are angelic spirits. There is an angel of the Lord. We are not getting to all those through scripture right now. But, we know that there are specified cherubim, seraphim, archangels, warring angels, and strong angels. There are countless ranks and orders of angels, divisions of angels, and they are on assignment to serve the heirs of salvation. They are on assignment to serve those who inherit the Kingdom. Wow, not just a guardian angel that is going to make sure you are safe 24/7. But, more than that. When your eyes are open to see them, you say, "Wow." When one shows up, you are pretty much toast, because they carry the glory of the Lord. Yet, they are attentive to your words. According to Scripture, the angels of the Lord hearken unto the voice of the Word of God, and they carry it out and perform it. Do due diligence in discerning of spirits. In this, we are going to grow even more. We are all spirit beings, humans.

#### Acts 13:6-10

Now that is discernment. Right. Is it legal to talk that way as a Christian? "Filled with Holy Spirit." This is the zeal of the Lord. He's not afraid to confront. You understand? He fills your belly and it comes out your mouth. Later, you say, "Did I say that?" It was the Holy Ghost, right? That is why it is written for us. Isn't that marvelous? Then it just makes you feel good when God calls it out.

#### Acts 13:11-12

Wow, someone gets saved, because darkness was confronted. The Spirit of God was on a vessel who knew the Holy Ghost. You don't want to just, "pull the gun out," if you don't know how to use it or have not tried it. We don't want to do that in the discerning of spirits and understanding different spirits. You "knew" this human spirit was more like a witch or warlock, right? Also astral projection takes place with that spirit. When you have some spirit come in your room and it wasn't the Lord. Right? Of course you have demonic spirits. We teach about all these things for you to understand their roots and their fruits that are all through Scripture. They operate against humanity, but we can get free, walk free, and deliver others. Praise God!

#### Matthew 4:23-24

Amen. We know there are demonic spirits. There are animal spirits and demonic spirits that inhabit animals. Truth, that happens and not just in Africa. We once had the best cat in the world. During a season when I was involved in a whole lot of high level warfare, that cat all of a sudden turned on me and hissed. Then he took off running to a house down the street which was traumatizing to our children. He never came back. I tried to pet him once as I was on my walk, but he ran off hissing, spitting.

#### Acts 16:16

This is on occultic spirits. That is amazing. That set off something else in the entire region. We are talking about the discerning of spirits and the different spirits.

#### Galatians 5:19-21

Now, we are called to walk and do the works of the Father. Correct? Okay, these are works of the flesh. You see that? These are all the spirits. The discerning of spirits works for all of these. Say, "Thank You, Lord." Jesus says, "You are going to know them by their fruit."

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Matthew 7:15-20

“Therefore by their fruits, you will know them.” We have been taught. We have been warned.

Galatians 5:22-26

These are the works of God.

Romans 14:17

What we hear the Spirit of the Lord saying is, “We need to mature now in due diligence and have due diligence and discernment.” He knows we need a fresh impartation. Amen.

The Holy Spirit imparts, and if you are wanting a fresh impartation, you can stand up and just lift up your hands. I am going to pray for all of us to receive that. Afterwards, if you want special prayer, we will pray for you up here.

Just lift up your hands to Him. If you are new at this, that is okay. It is just a place of surrender to the Lord. “Our hearts are open, Lord. Our hands are open towards you, Lord. We are taking heed to your words. We are a house that takes heed and attends to the word of the Lord. We honor you, Lord. We thank you that you care about us, and that we will not lack any good thing. You are always bringing increase to us. Whether we have just been born again, or are seasoned believers. Father God, we love you and honor you. We ask right now, in the name of Jesus, that you impart to us by your Holy Spirit, “due diligence.” Would you impart to us by your Spirit, discernment, true discernment, and the discerning of spirits. As you choose to use us in your Kingdom authority to advance your Kingdom on Earth, individually and corporately. We receive Holy Spirit right now. Thank you, Lord.

Now I want you just to thank Him. Some of you probably already feel Him. I feel Him. You do this by faith. Just tell Him, “Thank you. I receive this fresh impartation Lord. Thank you, Lord. Thank you.” Thank you, Lord, for such a time as this. Thank you, Lord. Thank you, Holy Spirit, for doing for us what we couldn't do ourself. We receive you, Lord. We thank you, Lord. We will be diligent to use it and not be afraid of it. We trust you Holy Spirit. Thank you for bringing us into maturity to be able to discern good from evil, and to judge righteously and justly in this age for your namesake. Seal it Lord. We thank you for it right now. In the name of Jesus. Amen.