

**October 29, 2023**

**An Invitation to the Divine: Week 4**

Galatians 5:25 (NIV)

Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

One of the most common questions I receive has to do with divine guidance. What's GOD'S WILL for my life?

God has always guided his people. Scripture abounds with examples of God providing guidance.

The Rub is it appears so normal and clear in Scripture, and yet it's such a challenge for us.

We're living in a time right now where a lot of people are asking, "What is happening in our world, what is God about to do?!"

Whether for your individual life, or our world at large, one of the biggest lessons that we need to learn is that we are listening and ready to receive God's Guidance and Direction of His Will for our life!

Key- We often limit God's guidance in our lives because God communicates to you to the extent that you invite him to do so, are attentive to His leading, and by your readiness to listen and hear.

I want to address some of the things that are happening in the world today, but first, let me give you some truth for your everyday life!

Sometimes we become so absorbed in seeking guidance for ourselves, that we overlook one of the Spirit's main reasons for speaking to us: not only for OUR good, or for the Good of Others, but ultimately for the GOOD OF GOD!

The Spirit guides us so that we might do the good things God planned for us long ago, and these things are all part of his plan of salvation. (Ephesians 2:10)

So how does God guide us?

I. The Holy Spirit works with our Renewed Mind

God has given us powers of reason to be used for his purposes, whether we utilize these to make medical discoveries, teach Sunday school, or discern God's will.

1 Corinthians 2:16 (NIV)

For, Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

Romans 8:5 (NIV)

Those who live according to the flesh have their Minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their Minds set on what the Spirit desires.

II. The Holy Spirit works through Scripture

The Bible provides a reliable yardstick by which to measure our ideas, plans, or actions. The Spirit will never lead us to contradict Scripture.

Reason alone is inadequate for spiritual discernment, but in the context of immersion in God's Word and the Christian community, it does supply a means of divine guidance for our lives.

I would say this, Scripture is the primary source for divine guidance in our life. This is why we call it the "Living Word".

It GUIDES us Corporately. It GUIDES us Personally.

But because Scripture does not address every issue or problem or exact circumstance in life, this approach can have its limits.

III. The Holy Spirit guides us by People and the Prophetic

This was His Primary way in the Old Testament. The role of the Prophet was vital to those leading God's People!

Today, in addition to scripture, The Holy Spirit speaks audibly through teachers, pastors, and friends. It's through the wisdom and counsel of other brothers and sisters in Christ that we can receive the guidance of the Holy Spirit. This is why the body of Christ is so important. We are not only wired for community, to have connection with other people, we need the wisdom and counsel of other Christians.

Paul writes in Romans, "I myself feel confident about you, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, and able to instruct one another."

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NIV)

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Question: What DAY is approaching?

The early church was convinced that Jesus was coming back in their lifetime, they lived every moment believing TODAY COULD BE THE DAY! They were believing Jesus' words, but we see it being fulfilled in conjunction with the Prophetic Word.

Rabbi Jason Soble, as well as other prominent church leaders, have explained we are not only living in the time of a perceived earthly World War III, but a Cosmic War to end all Wars that are of the Spirit realm!

The SPIRIT of Hamas is written about in the Genesis account as in the days of Noah.

God looked at the world in the days of Noah and he saw the world was filled with *hamas*, which means violence. God was grieved that he made man, and he brought the flood upon the earth. (Genesis 6:13)

The word 'hamas' means "violence" in Hebrew, and it's connected to Noah.

Matthew 24:37 (NIV)

Jesus said, "As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man."

The DAY that is approaching is one that will pit the Holy Spirit against the supreme Demonic Spirit which is Satan. The End Times will receive what the Bible calls the Spirit of the Antichrist.

What else describes this form of violence against God's people? Throughout the Old Testament the Amalekites were in constant war with the people of Israel.

Exodus 17:14 (NIV)

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Write this on a scroll as something to be remembered and make sure that Joshua hears it, because I will completely blot out the name of Amalek from under heaven."

What's the thread? The Amalekites settled in old world Persia, which is modern day Iran, who boldly proclaim the Spirit of Ha-man, the Spirit of Ha-mas against Israel to this day!

Revelation describes that at the END of TIME, four Kings/Kingdoms will rise for a final world battle. These prophetic words, that were blurred 50 years ago, start to come into razor focus.

Revelation 16:12 (NIV)

The sixth angel poured out his BOWL on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the East.

The Holy Spirit is awakening the Spirit of Prophecy! These are all signs BEFORE the rapture of the Church, and God's covering of Israel!