

The Ultimate Test Test of Discernment

Main Idea: Test of Discernment Is Won by Listening to the Right Voice

Three Voices We Come Across in Difficult Seasons:

I. The Voice of the Enemy

"Then Satan answered the Lord and said, "Does Job fear God for no reason? Have you not put a hedge around him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. But stretch out your hand and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face."

Job 1:9-11

*"Then Satan answered the Lord and said, "Skin for skin! All that a man has he will give for his life. **Job 2:4***

"Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast your integrity? Curse God and die"

Job 2:9

*"You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies." **John 8:44***

*"And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony," **Revelation 12:11***

II. The Voice of the Unwise

*"Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep" **Romans 12:15***

*"Remember: who that was innocent ever perished? Or where were the upright cut off? As I have seen, those who plow iniquity and sow trouble reap the same. By the breath of God they perish, and by the blast of his anger they are consumed **Job 4:7-9***

*"If you will seek God and plead with the Almighty for mercy, if you are pure and upright, surely then he will rouse himself for you and restore your rightful habitation. And though your beginning was small, your latter days will be very great." **Job 8:5-7***

*" Know then that God exacts of you less than your guilt deserves." **Job 11:6b***

*"As for you, you whitewash with lies; worthless physicians are you all. Oh that you would keep silent and it would be your wisdom! **Job 13:4-5***

III.

The Voice of God

*"For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God. **Job 19:25-26***

- **We are loved. John 3:16**
- **We are forgiven. 1 John 1:9**
- **We are his. Romans 8:38-39**
- **We are his children. 1 John 3:1**
- **We are chosen. Ephesians 1:4**
- **We are a new creation. Corinthians 5:17**

In difficult times, it is very easy to listen to the enemy, or fall prey to unwise voices, but the Test of Discernment is won by listening to the right voice. We must listen to the voice of God!

Sources and Further Reading Opportunities:

- Warren W. Wiersbe - The Wiersbe Bible Commentary (2007)
- New Bible Commentary - D.A. Carson (1994)
- The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures - J.F. Walvoord (1985)
- Holman Concise Bible Commentary: David S. Dockery
- Got Questions.Org