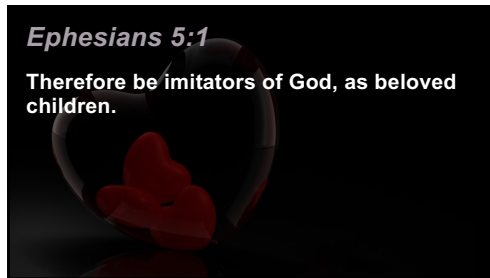
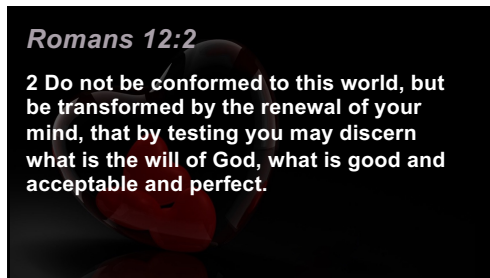




4



5



6

Test
 dokimázō, dok-im-ad'-zo; from G1384; to test, to approve:—allow, discern, examine, × like, (ap-)prove, try.
 Test the quality of metal

7

Romans 12:2
 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

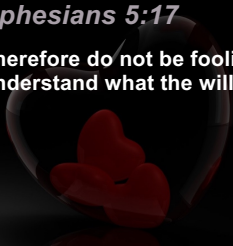
8

Progression of Wills?

ESV	Meaning
Good	Agathos useful, honorable
Pleasing	Euarestos well pleasing
Acceptable	Teleios perfect, mature

9

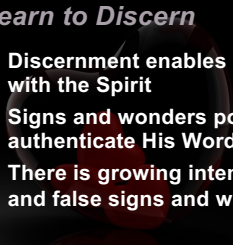
Ephesians 5:17
Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.



10

Learn to Discern

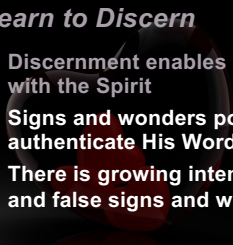
1. Discernment enables us to keep in step with the Spirit
2. Signs and wonders point to and authenticate His Word, plan and people
3. There is growing intensity of both true and false signs and wonders



11

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12

Galatians 5

16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do...25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

13

Life in the Spirit

Live in the Spirit: Daily choosing the life of faith in Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit and not the life of legalism [or license] through the power of the flesh

Walk by the Spirit: Spirit-guided lifestyle within the limits of the law of love.

Keep in Step with the Spirit: Discerning the will of God in the important decisions of life

14

Definition of Sign

Sign is a mark by which persons or things are distinguished and made known

Jesus told Peter and John to go into a city, meet a man carrying a jug of water, follow him to the house to find a room

10 plagues "signs" of divine displeasure

Shepherds would find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger

15

Definition of Wonder

Wonder from Greek word *teras* from which the English word *terror* comes. A wonder is foretold supernatural activity for the purpose of producing "wonder" or anticipation of God's plan for the future.

16

Gospel Authentication

It is perfectly clear that in New Testament times, the gospel was authenticated in this way by signs, wonders and miracles of various characters and descriptions. . . Was it only meant to be true of the early church? . . .

17

Gospel Authentication

The Scriptures never anywhere say that these things were only temporary – never! There is no such statement anywhere.

Martyn Lloyd-Jones
(The Sovereign Spirit, pp. 31-32)

18

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19

Ways to Hear From God

Signs	God arranges a specific physical sign as direction
Audible Voice	God's audible voice
Divine Messenger	Angel or Christ Himself

20

Purpose of Signs and Wonder

Signs and wonders are meant to build faith, encourage obedience, and showcase God's plan and His love

Exodus 4:5 5 "that they may believe that the Lord, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you."

21

Romans 15
18 For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to bring the Gentiles to obedience—by word and deed, 19 by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God—

22

Romans 15
19...so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ;

23

Acts 4:29-30
29 And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, 30 while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

24

Acts 9:34-35
34 And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed." And immediately he rose. 35 And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord.

25

Matthew 16:4
An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah." So he left them and departed.

26

Acts 14:3
3 So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

27

Early Church Prayed for Signs Yet

1. Most anointed preachers in history (Peter, Stephen, Philip, Apostle Paul...)
2. Most immediate and most compelling physical evidence of the truth of the resurrection than any generation since
3. Hundreds of living witnesses to the death and resurrection of Christ

28

Why Do Some Deny Signs and Wonders?

1. Don't have a positive experience
2. Afraid of the abuses and charlatans
3. Overly cerebral about many things

29

Signs and Wonders are not ...

Not the saving word of grace
Not the power unto salvation
Not heart transforming
Not fool-proof – Satan can counterfeit

30

Signs and Wonders are...

Dynamite to break through barriers
Wrecking balls that crack the shell of cynicism
Diamonds to scratch the veneer of false religion
Bright lights to awaken eyes of fallen hearts

31

Learn to Discern

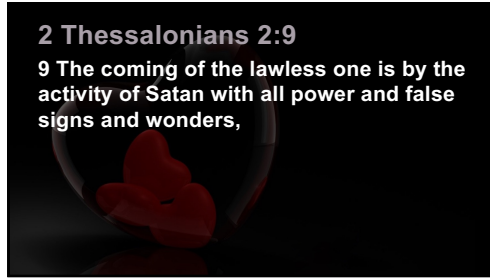
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32

Matthew 24:24

24 For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.

33



34



35
