

I THESSALONIANS

A Call to Biblical Discrimination

I Thessalonians 5:21-22

1. What is the meaning of discrimination and what other synonyms might we also use?
 - a. Who regularly practices discrimination?
 - b. Is it possible to go through life not discriminating between things?
2. What kind of discrimination is vs. 21 telling us to practice? Give examples of each of the categories below:
 - a. A believer or unbeliever practicing bad discrimination.
 - b. An unbeliever practicing good discrimination.
 - c. A believer practicing good discrimination.
3. Mechanics examine cars, doctors examine patients, archeologists examine their dig site, but what and how are believers to examine everything?
 - a. Is it reasonable to expect believers to constantly be examining everything? Can we always and continually be examining everything and, if so, how and by what?
 - b. A Christian friend comes to you and admits that they keep making bad choices, and they aren't sure how to improve their ability to discern between things. What advice might you give them?
 - c. When you think of the Christian life, what are some of *the most important things* to "examine carefully?"
 - d. What are some examples of things that either you or other believers you know have suffered because of a failure to examine something or someone carefully?
4. How practically do Christians, "hold fast to what is good?" Give examples.
5. Biblical discrimination should lead to what action according to vs. 22?
6. Give some examples of some of the more subtle forms of evil that a Christian might get caught up in if they don't have a high level of discernment.
7. How has the question, "What does the Bible say?" helped with God-honoring theological debates, denominations, church splits, church counsels, church creeds, doctrinal statements, sermons, and Bible studies throughout church history?

Prayer Topics:

- Pray that the saints at Anchor Bible Church will be discerning, grow in their biblical discrimination by having a deeper and more thorough understanding and knowledge of the Bible and sound doctrine so that they are not deceived and led astray into evil.
- Pray that we would remember we live in times of lying and deceit and therefore to examine everything carefully and hold fast to that which is good.
- Pray that we would put our biblical discernment into action by abstaining from every form of evil.