

## DISCERNMENT IN A DAY OF DECEPTION

### **TRAINING YOUR SENSES**

Hebrews 5:11-14      Jeff Schreve

*Concerning him we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil. Hebrews 5:11-14*

**Spiritual discernment is the ability to understand and apply God's Word for the purpose of separating right from wrong.**

**What do we learn about discernment from Hebrews 5?**

#### **1. Baby Christians are not discerning.**

A. Every Christian starts out as a baby Christian.

*... like newborn babes, long for the pure milk of the word, that by it you may grow in respect to salvation. 1 Peter 2:2*

B. Many Christians haven't grown past babyhood.

1. Baby Christians are dull toward the word.

*And for this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received from us the word of God's message, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe. 1 Thessalonians 2:13*

2. Baby Christians are not yet able to teach others.

3. Baby Christians are still on the bottle and in diapers.

*And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to babes in Christ. I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able to receive it. Indeed, even now you are not yet able, for you are still fleshly. 1 Corinthians 3:1-3*

#### **2. Mature Christians are discerning because of practice.**

*But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil. Hebrews 5:14*

A. God wants us to spend time in His word.

B. God wants us to obey His word.

*There fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do His commandments; His praise endures forever. Psalm 111:10*

C. God wants us to train our spiritual senses.

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. John 1:1 NAS*

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was a god. John 1:1 NWT*

*"For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." Genesis 3:5*

**What would God say about your spiritual condition?**