

DISCERNING GOOD FROM EVIL

1. THE TREES OF THE GARDEN.

1. ***Two trees.*** (Gen 2:9 KJV) And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.
2. ***Forbidden tree.*** (Gen 2:17 KJV) But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.
3. ***To know good from evil is God-likeness.***
 1. (Gen 3:5 KJV) For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.
 2. (Gen 3:22 KJV) And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:

2. THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL.

1. ***Lack of knowledge mark of innocence.***
 1. Adam and Eve were innocent before they ate.
 2. (Heb 5:14 KJV) But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.
2. ***God⇒ will for us.***
 1. To grow up.
 2. To be like him.
3. ***We are regaining access to the tree of life.***
 1. Wisdom. (Prov 3:13 KJV) Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. (Prov 3:14 KJV) For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold. (Prov 3:15 KJV) She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her. (Prov 3:16 KJV) Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour. (Prov 3:17 KJV) Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. (Prov 3:18 KJV) She is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: and happy is every one that retaineth her.
 2. A wholesome tongue. (Prov 15:4 KJV) A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit.
 3. To overcomer. (Rev 2:7 KJV) He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.
 4. For healing of the nations. (Rev 22:2 KJV) In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.
 5. To the obedient. (Rev 22:14 KJV) Blessed are they that do his

commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

3. DISCERNING THE NATURE OF GOD: GOOD OR EVIL?

1. ***God's desire is to do us good.***

1. (Psa 38:20 KJV) They also that render evil for good are mine adversaries; because I follow the thing that good is.
2. (3 John 1:11 KJV) Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.
3. (James 1:17 KJV) Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.
4. (James 3:15 KJV) This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. (James 3:16 KJV) For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. (James 3:17 KJV) But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

2. ***Everything ultimately is for our good.***

1. (Rom 8:28 KJV) And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.
2. (Gen 50:20 KJV) But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.

3. ***Jesus went about doing good.*** (Acts 10:38 KJV) How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

4. GOD'S DESIRE TO BLESS HIS PEOPLE.

1. (Deu 30:15 KJV) See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil; (Deu 30:16 KJV) In that I command thee this day to love the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it. (Deu 30:17 KJV) But if thine heart turn away, so that thou wilt not hear, but shalt be drawn away, and worship other gods, and serve them; (Deu 30:18 KJV) I denounce unto you this day, that ye shall surely perish, and that ye shall not prolong your days upon the land, whither thou passest over Jordan to go to possess it. (Deu 30:19 KJV) I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:
2. (Exo 19:4 KJV) Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you

on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself.

5. THE KEY TO LIFE AND GOOD DAYS.

1. (1 Pet 3:10 KJV) For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:
2. (Prov 15:4 KJV) A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit.
3. Seeking for the wisdom of God.
 1. (1 Cor 1:30 KJV) But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:
 2. (Eph 1:17 KJV) That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: