*Thursday, March 17, 2011*

**Don’t Settle For Less**

1 Corinthians 12:9-11 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; (10) To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: (11) But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. (KJV)

As God’s people are ministering one to another, you will see how the Spirit manifests in each and every situation, supplying all the need of the people. God already knows what the need is before hand; the question now becomes how many of God’s people know how to operate in the gift of the Spirit that they were given. Today I would like to look at the term ‘discerning of spirits’, because this is one area where many get hit off guard and get sucker punched by the enemy, and fall spiritually unconscious to the things of God.

John 14:26-27 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. (27) Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. (KJV)

We see that the Comforter was sent our way to teach us all things, not just some, but again we see the word ‘all’ being used. Only the truth will set us free and bring real comfort to our hearts, while anything else will lead to confusion and unrest. If you are not hearing personally from the Holy Ghost on a daily basis, renewing the mind, then there is another spirit ready to step in and steal what is rightfully yours for the taking.

1 Kings 22:20-23 And the LORD said, Who shall persuade Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead? And one said on this manner, and another said on that manner. (21) And there came forth a spirit, and stood before the LORD, and said, I will persuade him. (22) And the LORD said unto him, Wherewith? And he said, I will go forth, and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And he said, Thou shalt persuade him, and prevail also: go forth, and do so. (23) Now therefore, behold, the LORD hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these thy prophets, and the LORD hath spoken evil concerning thee. (KJV)

The enemy has been playing mankind for a chump for a long time, and is quite crafty at his work. Today we have many who claim to be of God, but they have already sold out to the god of this world, many times looking for a shortcut or an easier way. Many decide to let the majority rule, thinking that ‘if everyone else thinks it is so, well that’s good enough for me’.

Ephesians 2:1-3 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; (2) Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: (3) Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. (KJV)

Do you really want to follow the crowd? Wasn’t that the dead end path that you walked before your conversion in Christ? So who did you allow to talk you back there again? Think it can’t happen; well, you would be amazed at how many false doctrines are flying around the airwaves, after all just look at how many denominations man has dreamed up, yikes. Oh and just because they are on TV or the radio doesn’t necessarily mean it is of God. If the enemy is described as ‘the prince of the power of the air’ then, what better place for him to be preaching his false doctrine?

Ezekiel 13:2-3 Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel that prophesy, and say thou unto them that prophesy out of their own hearts, Hear ye the word of the LORD; (3) Thus saith the Lord GOD; Woe unto the foolish prophets, that follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing! (KJV)

It’s up to the Church to keep the eyes of their understanding open so that they will discern and know the difference between good and evil. As we clearly see the enemy is out and about trying to deceive, not only the world but God’s own people if they are not watching.

Hebrews 5:13-14 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. (14) 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. (KJV)

The more one exercises, the stronger they get. Do you know what was given to you when you accepted the Lord, and do you really know the difference between what is good and what is evil?