



STUDY GUIDE

Let the Seer Discern! Receiving God's Clear Vision for Our Times

“And Elisha prayed, ‘Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see.’ Then the Lord opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.” (2 Kings 6:17)

I. We Use Our Senses to Discern Good and Evil

A. Lessons from Hebrews 5:14

“But Solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.”

1. We chew on solid food, and we become mature.
2. We learn by practice sessions.
3. We must train our senses; it is not an automatic activity.
4. We train our senses to discern—*Strong’s Concordance, diakrrisis*—a distinguishing, deciding passing sentence on.
5. We discern both good *and* evil—not good *or* evil or good *versus* evil.

B. What Are Our Senses?

1. Each of us is naturally equipped with our five natural senses:
 - a. Sight

- b. Hearing
 - c. Taste
 - d. Smell
 - e. Touch
 - f. Knowing—a sixth sense
2. I believe there is also a sixth sense that I refer to as “knowing.”
 3. God will use all our natural senses as we present them to Him.
 4. Eventually we become naturally supernatural!

C. Presenting and Surrendering Our Senses

1. We are tripartite human being made in the image and likeness of God.
2. We are to present our entire being unto God as an act of worship (see Romans 12:1–2).
3. To whom we present the members of our body, they become a servant (see Romans 6:13,16,19).
4. If we present our senses to evil, they become a servant-slave to evil.
5. If we present our senses to righteousness, they become a servant-slave to righteousness.

D. Cleansing and Empowering Our Senses

1. After presentation and surrender, a specific level of cleansing and healing might be identified.
2. As you yield each member to the Holy Spirit, He will reveal hindrances and blockages to a particular sense.
3. You will know the truth and the truth will set you free (see John 8:32).
4. Now welcome the empowering of the Holy Spirit (see Acts 1:8).
5. Your senses will now be supernaturally heightened by the gifts and presence of the Holy Spirit.

II. A Great Diversity of Prophetic Expressions

In the modern global prophetic movement, we have the emergence of not just two, but the potential of three diverse prophetic streams coming forth as a result of the years of cross-pollination. Psalm 46:1 beautifully depicts, “There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy dwelling places of the Most High.” Notice that the word “river” is used in the singular form and the word “streams” is used in the plural. This is important to recognize.

A. **The Seer Stream**

One of the prominent streams in the prophetic gifting and river of God is the Seer—Visionary expression. This includes dreams, visions, and visitations and can be more premeditated versus spontaneous in function.

1 Samuel 9:9 states, *“Formerly in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, he used to say, ‘Come and let us go up to the seer’; for he who is called a prophet now was formerly called a seer.”*

B. **The Hearer Stream**

The most predominant of all of the historic gifting of the prophetic river of God is the Hearer—or the *naba* expression. These can be more spontaneous in function and move in faith by the flow of the Holy Spirit.

Deuteronomy 18:18 describes, *“I will raise up a prophet among their countrymen like you, and I will put My words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.”*

C. **The Feeler Stream**

These prophetic vessels are geared extra-sensitive and are oriented towards moving out of a realm of heart of compassion and sensing the emotions of God, of an individual, or even of a regional atmosphere.

Matthew 9:6 portrays this, *“When He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep*

having no shepherd.”

D. Additional Streams and Expressions

Always remember that God does not live in a box. There is a great diversity of expression of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and a variety of ways these gifts are empowered through His people. There are no cookie-cutters, though there are Biblical boundaries for testing the spirits and the guidelines of the fruit of the Spirit at all times. But we serve a good God who gives good gifts to His children (see Matthew 7:11 and Luke 11:13).

III. You Can See as Jesus Sees

A. An Invitation for Each of Our Lives

1. Jesus walks in a communal relationship with His Father through the Holy Spirit (see John 5:19).
2. Jesus calls us into this same relational friendship, “No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends” (see John 15:15).
3. Jesus’ interaction with his future disciple, Nathaniel, is an invitation to us as well. “Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Because I said to you that I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You will see greater things than these’” (see John 1:50).

B. Without a Vision

1. Proverbs 29:18a declares, “*Where there is no vision, the people perish.*”
2. Unrestrained behavior leads eventually to destruction.
3. People who have no vision also have limited perspective on their destiny—they have nothing to aim the direction of their talent or gifting towards.
4. My uncle Arnold Burns taught me, “*If you aim at nothing, you will hit it!*”

C. **Vision is the Power that Sustains**

1. Elisha walked in it (see 2 Kings 9–12a).
2. Jacob walked in it (see Genesis 30:37–43).
3. Zechariah walked in it (see Zechariah 4:1–7).
4. Daniel walked in it (see Daniel 7:9–14).
5. Paul the apostle invites us to walk in it, according to Ephesians 1:17–19:

“That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe.”

D. **New Things Are Coming**

Isaiah 42:9, *“Behold the former have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I will tell you of them.”* (RSV)

IV. **Discernment Is the Need of the Hour**

A. **The Warning Concerning Deceiving Spirits**

1. 1 Timothy 4:1 warns us, *“The Spirit explicitly says that in the latter times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.”*
2. To be forewarned is to be forearmed.
3. Satan’s number one weapon is deception.
4. Let’s not be ignorant of the devil’s schemes.

B. **We Can Be Quick of Scent**

1. Isaiah 11:3, in the KJV, declares that the Spirit of the Lord would *“make him of quick understanding [literally, “quick of scent”] in the fear of the Lord.”*

2. This is like unto the nose of a sheep dog—sharper than that of a human—which can detect a wolf in sheep’s clothing.
3. We can walk in discernment that is not based in natural reasoning, but in spiritual discernment.
4. We can detect that true from the false and the imitation from the authentic.

C. **There is a Higher Realm**

We need to move into a higher dimension of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, especially the gift of discerning of spirits. We are called to detect the motivating source working behind the scenes, not just observing and reaction to the natural realm. We are called to a higher sphere of discerning spiritual realities. We need sharper and more exact spiritual perception for the times in which we live. Let us hear and respond to the Holy Spirit’s voice, *“Come up here. Come up higher.”*

V. **A Word of Encouragement and a Prayer of Consecration**

A. **A Word of Encouragement—Like Blind Bartimaeus**

As recorded in Mark 10, the blind beggar named Bartimaeus cried out to Jesus for the Son of God to have mercy upon him. *“And answering him, Jesus said, ‘What do you want Me to do for you?’ And the blind man said to Him, ‘Rabboni, [I want] to regain my sight!’ And Jesus said to him, ‘Go; your faith has made you well.’ Immediately he regained his sight and [began] following Him on the road.”*

1. God’s desire is for the Body of Christ to see.
2. God’s desire is for the seer to discern!
3. God’s desire is for you to have clear vision for your life!

B. **2 Kings 6:17—Elisha Saw and Prayed**

“And Elisha prayed, ‘Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see.’ Then the Lord

opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha."

C. A Prayer of Consecration

"Father, we desire for any hindrances or obstacles that are in our lives, that limit our capacity to see as Jesus sees, to be identified and removed so that we could discern in a higher realm. Cleanse us. Heal us. Make us whole! We submit our natural senses to You, and we are asking that You empower us by Your Holy Spirit so that we can be supernaturally natural.

"We declare that we are growing in true discernment to see, feel, hear, and know both good and evil. Like blind Bartimaeus, we cast off restraints and we come boldly to You. We ask for clearer vision for our lives, in Jesus Christ's name. Amen and amen!"