

“But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:” Titus 2:1

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:” II Timothy 3:16

“14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ.” Ephesians 4:14-15

“Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.” II Timothy 1:13

IV. THE _____ FOR DISCERNMENT (4:4)

“These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” John 16:33

“Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.” Romans 8:37

“There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.” I Corinthians 10:13

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.” Ephesians 6:10

DO YOU HAVE DISCERNMENT?

“15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.” I Corinthians 2:15-16

BIRTHMARKS OF A CONFIDENT BELIEVER

Birthmark #6 - Discernment

Pastor Steve Reynolds

sreynolds@capitalbaptist.org

INTRODUCTION

- A. Life is filled with uncertainties. Will today's job be there tomorrow? Will my marriage survive? Will my children be ok?

Sometimes these uncertainties touch our spiritual being. We wonder about our relationship with God. Is my life pleasing to Him? These doubts erode our confidence and can be erased.

“13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

14 And this is the confidence that we have in him,...” I John 5:13-14a

- B. Join me in this eight week series we will reveal the birthmarks of a confident believer.

May 9	Birthmark #1 - Joy
May 16	Birthmark #2- Obedience
May 23	Birthmark #3- Truth
May 30	Birthmark #4- Righteousness
June 6	Birthmark #5- Unity
TODAY	Birthmark #6- Discernment
June 20	Birthmark #7-
June 27	Birthmark #8-

Come as you are and build your confidence as we study God's Word.

- C. TEXT: I John 4:1-6 (Pew Bible Page 243/New Testament)

“He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.”

John 8:47

HOW TO HAVE DISCERNMENT

I. THE _____ FOR DISCERNMENT (4:1a)

“These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.” Acts 17:11

"11 Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing.

12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

13 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.

1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection;...” Hebrews 5:11-6:1a

III. THE FOR DISCERNMENT (4:1b)

“Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

16 Ye shall know them by their fruits....” Matthew 7:15-16a

“29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

“But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.”

III. THE _____ FOR DISCERNMENT (4:2-3; 5-6)

1. The _____ Test (vs 2-3)

“1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.” John 1:1,14

“Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.” Matthew 1:23

“For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.” Hebrews 4:15

"But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs;" John 19:33

“He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.” Matthew 28:6

A. The Test (vs 5-6)

"2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.” II Timothy 4:2-4