

*"Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee; to deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things." Proverbs 2:11-12 KJV*



Discretion - "moral discernment, discernment, power to make distinctions." (Latin-*discernere*) "To separate, distinguish." Like squirrels, men possess a certain self-preserving discernment that many, from experience and self-evaluation, use to prevent unpleasantness from entering their lives. It is more derived from recognizing and avoiding undesirable circumstances than from a desire to please God and even includes doing good works to merit heaven. Foolish pride prevents admission of guilt and helplessness before a Righteous and Just Sovereign. They strive to "one-up" each other on the "good works" scale, foolishly thinking that to merit heaven they need only be better than the other guy. *"For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise. [Look] unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith"* God's Word is the measure of your soul! Most act according to the old adage: To escape a charging bear, you don't need to be the fastest, you need only be a little faster than the last guy. Hell will consume ALL those not saved by faith. *"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost. We are ALL as an unclean thing, and ALL our righteousnesses (good deeds) are as filthy rags."* By the Creator's Holy standard *"there is none righteous..."* He adamantly dismisses any protest or argument by adding, *"NO, NOT ONE!"* God has given us His sure *"way of escape"* in His written Word, but do men seek it out? NO! They futilely sift human reason and knowledge for flecks of mica instead of going to the gold mine of God's Word for golden nuggets of Truth. It is freely given to all. *"The LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His Truth endureth to all generations. The heavens declare the glory of God...Day unto day uttereth speech...There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. They are without excuse!"* Only foolish pride gambles on a "maybe" when the sure thing is freely available! *"The fool hath said in his heart, 'There is no God!'"* The discerning power of the indwelling God the Holy Spirit speaks preserving discretion to the hearts and minds of every faithful believer. They don't have to hope or guess that they're doing right, they know, because they've been to the Gold Mine! *"These things have I written UNTO YOU THAT BELIEVE on the name of the Son of God; THAT YE MAY KNOW..."* Faith must precede knowledge. You can know nothing of God outside of simple trusting faith. Faith understands, because it believes God with no admixture of human sense or reason!

God's Righteousness for our malaise,  
Preserves the saint in all His ways,  
God's Way is plain; His Truth secure,  
Those who follow Him for aye endure! ~CGP

Truth always trumps human reason! Spurgeon wrote; "Your eyes cannot see the blissful future: borrow the telescope of faith; wipe the misty breath of your doubts from the glass; look through it and behold the coming glory." Believe it or not, Jesus will return, *"to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."* If you can't understand this, your unbelief that blinds you to the Truth!

*"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." 2 Corinthians 4:4 KJV*