

## To Distinguish Between the Righteous and the Wicked

**Mal 3:16** talks about either a people who have a desire to serve the true God with all their heart and soul and mind and who really want to be formed into His holy nation, and/or it talks about Christianity. It says it will distinguish between those who serve God and those who do not.

The word *speak* there has a tremendous meaning. What *speak* actually means is to get what's inside to the outside, to really communicate your heart to people, let them know where you are, what is inside of you. We communicate our heart to our Father and to our brothers. If we do that and we live truly, speaking truly, we will all grow up into the head and once again there will be a distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve Him and those who do not serve Him.

The *wicked* in the New Testament means those who live by their own strength, by their own flesh. The wicked wake up and say, "I just don't know how I'm going to do it, how I'm going to live this life, how I'm going to make it through this day. I just don't know." That's the wicked who say that. They are wicked because they are relying on their own strength; they are not relying on our Father's strength. Dan 12:10 says that He will distinguish between the wise-hearted and the wicked-hearted. The wicked-hearted say, "How am I going to do it? How am I going to get my flesh to do it? How am I going to do it in my own natural strength? They do not turn themselves and their will over to Him (like in Jennifer's letter, "Willpower").

Christians live every day by their flesh. They get the flesh going, they reform it, refine it, ennoble it, embellish it to make it better. That's all they have is the flesh, the human nature. Christians are the leaders of the new age movement, living by principles and laws, accusing everyone else of being under the law when they are under the law themselves, since they don't have the Spirit to live by. So of course they have to live by the flesh; they have to live by their human nature.

In the gospel there are many aspects, many elements, to the whole. It is made up of many elements. One aspect is, just like Christians say, "Jesus died and he rose again from the dead." That's one aspect. It is a main aspect, but the gospel has *many* facets. We have to hear that He died for us, that He was the Lamb of God, that we have to lay our hands on Him, that we have to terminate our lives, believe in Him, trust in Him. But then it is necessary that other aspects of the gospel come into view. We have to preach the full, comprehensive gospel, the easily understandable gospel, to those who are willing to do His will. You cannot just pick one aspect and leave out the other aspects of the gospel and expect people to receive eternal life.

You have to believe, yes, but you also have to obey. (Jn 3:36 — the word is *obey*, not *reject*). If you believe you have eternal life, but if you disobey, the wrath of God remains on you because you do not have salvation until you have obeyed the gospel. Rom 10:16 — It says that all have not obeyed the full comprehensive gospel which has been preached. Whoever obeys the Son has eternal life and receives the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is given to those who obey Him.

If someone says to a visitor, "You have to give up your life, repent, give it up," he might say, "Well, I don't know Him." So how can he do it? Faith. Faith comes by hearing about Him, about who He is, about what He has done. "Introduce Him to me; tell me what He's done. How can I give my life to someone I don't know and if I don't know what He's done for me?" "Jesus died and rose again" is not the comprehensive gospel.

Certainly you have to know that, but people have gone down the aisle 20 times wanting to be saved and all they did was believe — no one told them to obey. "What must I do to have eternal life?" asked the rich young ruler. Our Master did not say, "Just believe in me." He told him what we have to do.

We have to understand who He is, what He's done. Somehow the Holy Spirit has to communicate through us that actually the true God has come to earth to save man, and then all the other aspects of the gospel that have to be obeyed — all the things you have to do to be saved, the absolute renunciation of all things and everything that you have that allows you to exist in the world.

After you obey the gospel, you can't exist on your own, by yourself in the world anymore. You have to

rely on the body of Messiah. People have been trained in Christianity to believe that you still have to prosper in the world, but that's a different gospel than the one that our Master preached and the disciples preached, which resulted in the first community which you can read about in Acts 2 and 4. This gospel [that resulted in Acts 2 and 4] is the gospel that must be preached in order to build this tribe. Perhaps it will include Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri. You have to have a lot of faith if you want to expand to those areas. But you are the seed that has to die. That is the good news we have to proclaim.

The many-faceted, comprehensive, full gospel is recorded from Matthew to John. Then the epistles show the gospel of the kingdom. Acts 20:24-27 — Paul said that he had not failed to tell us everything. (He spoke about the gospel of grace and the gospel of the kingdom.) *“For I have not hesitated to tell you the whole purpose and plan of God.”* When he got through with the Ephesians they knew everything that God had revealed at that time. But look at the Ephesians 30 years later. The last thing that Paul told the Ephesians was to not let their love die down (Eph 6:24). But then just a few years later, John wrote that letter to the Ephesians. Obviously they had started getting up in the morning saying, “I just don't know how I can do it.” They forgot about grace, they forgot about the throne of grace, they forgot about the Spirit, and did it all in their own flesh. All they think about is their own flesh, how hard it is in their own flesh, “How can I do it?” But we live by another life — we live by His life.

**Grace:** shared about how grateful she was to be able to go to our Father in frankness, how it freed her to be able to be frank with our Father.

**Hakam:** Yoneq was sharing with me a little bit yesterday, and I'm seeing that unless we express our heart, there is no release from the Holy Spirit. But it has to be from the heart. We're not living by doing the right thing, but we're living by a higher standard, the law of love. That's why we have to express love to one another from the heart. We know we can lift our hands because we know we've spoken the truth to one another in love. That's an aspect of being a disciple — speaking the truth to one another in love. I see how futile it is to speak from my mind, but only from the heart. Because in my mind I can go off, but my heart is what matters. That's why He disciplines us — to bring us to the point where we will listen to our heart, we will respond with what's in our heart because He's given us a new heart. That's where life comes from — from our heart. That's why we've got to be real before our God; we've got to be real with Him from our heart, what's in our heart, what we truly feel deep down within us. And you can't get to that just off the top of your head. Like you sit down to talk with someone and you can't go right to the heart of the matter. To be able to speak with few words and get right to the point, that is something that we have to develop, that comes through practice.

We've had our training in the world, we're superficial, we're trained to hide, but we have to practice by being true. We have to practice being true. We'll be full of everything we need if we will speak from the heart to each other. We'll receive each other, repent, we'll be able to see what our brothers and sisters are saying to us when they come to us with things.

Yoneq came to me about something last night and I was so thankful that we could talk and get to the heart of the matter. There was the incident, but then there was the heart of the matter, which is really important. That's the thing we're supposed to get to — the heart of our God, so we can walk in it. I was so thankful for that communication of life, Spirit and peace. I received understanding in my heart. What's in our heart has got to break out of the shell inside of us. Then life would come out through our soul, through our brain and out through our mouth.