

# Are You Discerning Truth?

| Questions   | Spiritual View  | Secular view   |
|---|---|--|
| How did the world get here?                         | God created the world   | It just is   |
| Where did people come from?                         | God created Adam & Eve  | Evolution  |
| How will the world end?                             | God will destroy by fire. remake a perfect world  | Climate crisis   |
| How is a people group made strong?                  | Becoming one in identity & purpose  | Diversity of identities and agendas  |
| Does God Exist?                                     | Yes   | No. Maybe. Who knows?  |
| Love is...  | <u>Giving</u> to God & Others for God. From this I experience joy.  | <u>Getting</u> for ME ultimately. This will make me happy.   |
| What does it mean to be human?                      | Each person is an eternal soul made like God (mind, will emotions) Gen.2:7;Matt 25:46   | A person is only physical material. No soul. Live and then die. That's it.   |
| Are humans animals?                                 | Humans are above animals & are to <u>rule over</u> , utilize, & be good stewards of animals in God's creation, Gen 1:26 'dominion over'.  | Humans are equal to animals and a <u>part</u> of the animal world. Humans are no more valuable than other creatures.   |
| Are we in danger of overpopulation on planet Earth? | Yahweh commanded the human race to "replenish the earth" & has not rescinded the order, Gen 1:28. (obviously it was not only to Adam) The overpopulation myth is an imaginary crisis. | "Advocates of population moderation cite issues like quality of live & risk of starvation & disease as a basis to argue against continuing high human population growth & FOR population decline." |
| What is marriage?                                   | Marriage is a contractual relationship between a particular male & a particular female mutually given to serve one another to make one. Mt 19:4-5                                     | "A culturally recognised union between people, called spouses, that establishes rights and obligations between them."  |
| What is the source of authoritative truth?          | Obvious creation that exists, The Word of God, Honestly agreeing with God.  | Ever advancing and accumulated knowledge of the human species. "Experts; their studies, & their research."   |
| To whom does planet Earth belong?                   | God owns the earth and everything in it. Ps 24:1  | Mother Nature & all the creatures Sof the earth.   |



God has a special work for you to do in His church. So, He gives you supernatural ability to do that work.

That ability is called your **SPIRITUAL GIFT**

With it, you do your part to build up the Body.

# 1Corinthians 12

Now, dear brothers and sisters, regarding your question about the special abilities the Spirit gives us. I don't want you to misunderstand this. 2 You know that when you were still pagans, you were led astray and swept along in worshiping speechless idols. 3 So I want you to know that no one speaking by the Spirit of God will curse Jesus, and no one can say Jesus is Lord, except by the Holy Spirit. 4 There are different kinds of **spiritual gifts**, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. 5 There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. 6 God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us. 7 A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. 8 To one person the Spirit gives the *ability to give wise advice*; to another the same Spirit gives a message of *special knowledge*. 9 The same Spirit gives *great faith* to another, & to someone else the one Spirit gives the *gift of healing*. 10 He gives one person the power to perform *miracles*, & another the ability to *prophecy*. He gives another the *ability to discern whether a message is from the Spirit of God* or from another spirit. Still another person is given the ability to speak in unknown *languages*, while another is given the ability to *interpret what is being said*. 11 It is the one & only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.

12 The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. 13 Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit. 14 Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part. 15 If the foot says, "I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand," that does not make it any less a part of the body. 16 If the ear says, "I am not part of the body because I am not an eye," would that make it any less a part of the body? 17 If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything? 18 But our bodies have many parts, & God has put each part just where he wants it. 19 How strange a body would be if it had only one part! 20 Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. 21 The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you."

22 In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. 23 And the parts we regard as less honorable are those we clothe with the greatest care. So we carefully protect those parts that should not be seen, 24 while the more honorable parts do not require this special care. So God has put the body together such that extra honor and care are given to those parts that have less dignity. 25 This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other. 26 If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad. 27 All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it. 28 Here are some of the parts God has appointed for the church: first are *apostles*, second are *prophets*, third are *teachers*, then those who do *miracles*, those who have the gift of *healing*, those who can *help* others, those who have the gift of *leadership*, those who speak in unknown *languages*. 29 Are we all apostles? Are we all prophets? Are we all teachers? Do we all have the power to do miracles? 30 Do we all have the gift of healing? Do we all have the ability to speak in unknown languages? Do we all have the ability to interpret unknown languages? Of course not! 31 So you should earnestly desire the most helpful gifts. *[New Living Translation]*

## SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Your spiritual gift is God working in you to build the Church

How to think and behave about who does what:

### What Are Spiritual Gifts?

### Why Do We Have These Gifts?

### The Miracle of Unity With Diversity

My commentt:

- 1.
- 2.