

To discern means to detect with the senses, recognize, distinguish, pick out, make out, tell apart.

I have been in Israel three times. Each time was a spiritual experience for me. On one occasion I got up early and went to a place on the Mount of Olives where I could be alone and view the Old City as Jesus viewed it when He came down riding on the donkey.

The people then were crying out Hosanna. In the middle of this praise Jesus began to weep. For 3 1/2 years He had crisscrossed Judea, Samaria and Galilee seeking the lost. John 1:11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not. Jerusalem had rejected Him. Jesus wept.

Luke 19:41 And when he was come near, **he beheld the city, and wept over it,**

42 Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! **but now they are hid from thine eyes.**

43 For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side,

44 And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; **because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.**

Thirty three years earlier there was a different generation of people in Jerusalem. Zacharias, his wife Elisabeth, Mary and Joseph were there. They were two couples whose hearts were ready to receive from God. Simeon, an old man, and Anna the prophetess were also present in the Temple on His eighth day. They all rejoiced. However on this day of Jesus triumphal entry Jesus wept. Jerusalem was different. The High Priest of Aaron and the Levitical priests of Levi rejected God. The Priests of God rejected God.

As Jesus helplessly wept over Jerusalem, so have I this same feeling I purposely picked up on the Mount of Olives that day in Israel. There comes a time when you have done all you can do.

There is nothing left to do but weep. Their end is - Matt 7:23 And then will I profess unto them, **I never knew you:** depart from me, ye that work iniquity. (**I never knew you,**) are very sad words.

Luke 12:54 And he said also to the people, When ye see a cloud rise out of the west, straightway ye say, There cometh a shower; and so it is.

55 And when ye see the south wind blow, ye say, There will be heat; and it cometh to pass.

56 Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not **discern this time?**

Jesus said, You can tell when it is going to rain and prepare shelter, but you cannot **discern** spiritual things. He wanted them to discern the time of opportunity He was offering them through a relationship with Him. They were too taken up with their own little world. There is a natural discernment and there is a spiritual discernment. With the clouds appearing on the horizon of our nation we can tell it is going to rain. **Seed will grow in this rain.**

Spiritual discernment comes from God. He knows what He's doing and when He is going to do it. It will be a test of our spirit to see how we will react to the fulfillment of His Word in the near future. We cannot continue to just live on – we must prepare our hearts for the test coming on us.

Acts 27:23 For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve,

24 Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.

25 Wherefore, sirs, **be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.**