

DISCERNING DAILY

BEYOND SENSE

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BEYOND
SENSE

**"O SIMPLE
ONES, LEARN
PRUDENCE;
O FOOLS,
LEARN
SENSE."**

PROVERBS 8:5

HE IS BEYOND SENSE

Are you functioning with common sense? Or holy sense? Here is what I mean. Sense is the ability to perceive and know and observe and judge things as they really are. This is the structure behind wisdom.

In every culture, there's what is seen as cool or uncool. There's what's seen as decent or indecent. It all hinges on the sense of judgement of the people in that era, times, nation, or context.

There's a way that God perceives all things, even the littlest things. This is what we have called holy sense or beyond sense. It's superior intelligence regarding every moment and every thing. The apostle John once said ***"But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge"*** 1 John 2:20, showing us that there's a spiritual teaching of the anointing of God within us, that's different from the intellectual teaching of men that comes by what we hear with our ears and see with our eyes. The purpose of this teaching is to train our souls to become spiritual. This spiritual soul is maturity in Christ. It is a soul that's able to discern what's good or evil, no matter how it appears to the eyes. This is how Jesus lived (***Isaiah 11:3-4, John 5:19***) and now we've been called to live in that manner (***1 John 2:3-6***).

There's an inward sense of righteousness and holiness and prosperity. A sense coming from a reality beyond what we are very conscious of. A sense that affects everything we do, even in the basic things of daily living, like eating, drinking, voting, neighbouring, deciding, learning, joking, chatting. This holy sense is reflected in our boundaries, ambitions, confidence, secrets, decisiveness, conviction, judgements, listening, possessing, praying, witnessing, acting and sense of worth (*being*).

This is what God is calling us to through His entire Word. God calls us to this through the revelations of the New Testament and the consecrations of the Old Testament. He calls us out of carnality to godliness, to possess a true knowledge of Him that is not religious, worldly, or lofty, but simple, real, true, and heavenly. May we become such men and women of God, as the Bible said, "***of whom the world was not worthy***", (*Hebrews 11:38a*), because, partaking of the divine nature, we walk as strangers and pilgrims in the earth. We walk with beyond sense.

THE BIBLE

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C O N T E N T

- One - **How much food is too much?**
- Two - **Is drinking alcohol an issue? Why?**
- Three - **For King & Country**
- Four - **What has skill got to do with it?!**
- Five - **What's funny?!**
- Six - **Can I confide in you?**
- Seven - **Where do I draw the line?**
- Eight - **"I have a dream!"**
- Nine - **'I'm not afraid of you!'**
- Ten - **Here is my secret**
- Eleven - **Are you going right or left?! Don't waste my time**
- Twelve - **Here I stand, I can do no other.**
- Thirteen - **Navigating human consequences of bad decisions**
- Fourteen - **Hearing securely**

C O N T E N T

Fifteen - **I have a new body already**

Sixteen - **"I pray, yet not I that pray"**

Seventeen - **Are you a witness?!**

Eighteen - **Have you considered the price? and the prize!**

Nineteen - **How do we Go!?!**

Twenty - **Managing growth & progress!**

AUTHOR'S NOTE

This book reminds us that demons are fallen spirits, and they are fallen because they've fallen from the nature of love, while still having supernatural power functional in the unseen realm, and able to manifest in the seen realm when in partnership with men. This is because of their nature and ordination.

However, in redemption, God has made provision for divine wisdom and divine power in Christ, to overcome, rule and dispel demons and their darkness.

This book is also a prophetic and practical study through the book of Proverbs with focus on reigning by light & fire.

My prayer is for the eyes of your heart to be flooded with visions and revelations of the Lord Jesus.

Tolu Cole
July 2023

HOLY SENSE.

BEYOND SENSE

There's common sense but there's holy sense. Holy sense is the balanced perspective of things. This balanced perspective of this a godly perspective of things. There's a false sense of balance in the world today, which teaches carnality, a little of God and a little of the world. That's not accurate. That's deception of Satan. Jesus told us **"to observe all that I have commanded you"** Matthew 28:20, and Paul said **"Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, for I did not shrink from declaring to you *the whole counsel of God*. Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, *to care for the church of God*, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and *from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.*"** Acts 20:26-30, like Paul said, many have risen today from the professing Jesus, speaking twisted things. These twisted things are imbalanced things. They are speaking without the manifestation of the Holy Spirit in counsel. Without the spiritual manifestation of counsel, might will be lacking often, because might is attached to the prophetic will.

Might and power is attached to purpose. Whenever we align ourselves with the purposes of God, which is what consecration is, then, the power of God can flow in that direction. This is what counsel does for us. Counsel guides us in alignments. This manifesting of spiritual counsel is what I call beyond sense. It's a divine compass to lead us. Paul said **“for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control”** 2 Timothy 1:7, showing us that the new creation, the new man, has a spirit that has holy sense. This holy sense has no fear, but has power, has love and has self-control. These are the markers of a believer. This holy sense is to be possessed fully by the soul, so that all we do here will be a reflection of Zion. **“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God”** 1 Corinthians 10:31.

What marks the beyond sense, is when we do all to the glory of God. This can only happen when we do all by the glory of God. This is a practical lifestyle of walking by the Spirit, being led of Him even in the simple things, like eating, drinking, voting, working, joking, gisting, deciding, listening, witnessing and the likes.

BEYOND SENSE

GOOD SENSE

“Good sense is a fountain of life to him who has it, but the instruction of fools is folly” Proverbs 16:22, “Good sense wins favor, but the way of the treacherous is their ruin.” Proverbs 13:15, “Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense.” Proverbs 19:11, “A man is commended according to his good sense, but one of twisted mind is despised” Proverbs 12:8, “Do not speak in the hearing of a fool, for he will despise the good sense of your words.” Proverbs 23:9

LACKING SENSE

“For at the window of my house I have looked out through my lattice, and I have seen among the simple, I have perceived among the youths, a young man lacking sense, passing along the street near her corner, taking the road to her house” Proverbs 7:6-8, “He who commits adultery lacks sense; he who does it destroys himself.” Proverbs 6:32, “I passed by the field of a sluggard, by the vineyard of a man lacking sense, and behold, it was all overgrown with thorns; the ground was covered with nettles, and its stone wall was broken down. Then I saw and considered it; I looked and received instruction.” Proverbs 24:30-32,

“One who wanders from the way of good sense will rest in the assembly of the dead” Proverbs 21:16

LEARNING SENSE

“O simple ones, learn prudence; O fools, learn sense.” Proverbs 8:5, “And God saw that it was good” Genesis 1:10B, 12B, 18B, 21B, 25B. By this, we learn that goodness is a contextual manifestation of Holiness. When we know God’s goodness through good sense, we are coming into a deeper knowledge of God.

“But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil” Hebrews 5:14,

People are known by what they eat; either milk or solid food, because that’s what they are able to process. Our ability to know God deeper than, is our ability to distinguish what is of holy sense, and what’s of unholy sense. Good is of holy sense in an area or situation, while evil is what’s of unholy sense in a situation. This is being conversant with life, not only laws.

“For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Whoever thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men. So then let us pursue what makes for

peace and for mutual upbuilding. Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God. Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong for anyone to make another stumble by what he eats. It is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that causes your brother to stumble. The faith that you have, keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who has no reason to pass judgment on himself for what he approves. But whoever has doubts is condemned if he eats, because the eating is not from faith. For whatever does not proceed from faith is sin.” Romans 14:17-23

When we read here, we would see that eating and drinking is a big deal in the knowledge of God. This is because God wants to be known by us in the places we are. He wants to come down. That’s the purpose of grace and power. What we eat and drink matters to Him seriously.

“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God” 1 Corinthians 10:31. The knowledge of God is not a very far matter, rather, it’s a very near matter.

A holy sense is not a lofty sense, but a dear and near sense. That’s what Paul insinuates in 2 Corinthians 10:3-5. To know God, we do not chase lofty opinions but we pursue simple devotion.

This is what Paul speaks about in Romans 10:6-10. We would speak about it.

The knowledge of God is a holy sense. The knowledge of God is not simply a thing of ascension, and a thing of descending, but also a thing of expressing.

When we look at the image of the cross, we see ascension, descending, and expression. Jesus has done the ascending, the Holy Spirit has done the descending and the body of Christ is doing the expressing.

The expressing is a combination of the ascending and descending, in the ways that people can understand, not simply because of people, but because of God. God's wisdom is love. God loves to be known, understood and practiced.

The true knowledge of God is the practice of God in the most simplest fashion.

Paul said, **“But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe**

in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.” Romans 10:6-10

From here, Paul is telling us that we only have to access what’s already available and express it, because as we “confess” and express it, we grow in the experiential knowledge of it. The body of Christ is for the display of the wisdom of God. That’s the knowledge of God for us. That’s we being light by our works (*Ephesians 3:10, Matthew 5:16*).

01 How much food is too much?

It makes one forget and waste..

“If you have found honey, eat only enough for you, lest you have your fill of it and vomit it” Proverbs 25:16

When we look at the matter of food and eating in Scripture, it's a very serious matter. It's one of the holiest matters. What goes into our mouths is very serious.

God gave the children of Isreal manna, every day in the wilderness, and then, gave them fields to cultivate their own food in Canaan. Even in the wilderness, God tells them to take only what's enough for them. Jesus taught us to pray, give us this day our daily bread, not our weekly bread, or monthly bread. This teaches us that the most holy place is a place where we are most dependent on God. That's why it's what we eat and ingest into our souls that builds faith.

Physically, we should eat just what's enough for us. When we eat too much because of fear of not having tomorrow, it will overwhelm our capacity and we wouldn't be built up as we should. Even Jesus, after feeding 5,000 people with a lot, he didn't want anything to waste.

This is why milk is given to babies, and solid food is given to those mature.

BEYOND SENSE

In the kingdom, there's abundance but there's no waste. There's a difference between abundance and waste.

Waste & Abundance

The kingdom of darkness is about waste, but the kingdom of God is about good stewardship. That's the difference between a mature believer who is rich and an unbeliever who is rich. One is a good and generous steward, while the other is a waster, even of what he doesn't have. That's why the riches of the unrighteous are saved up for the righteous, who will manage it well. God truly increases what we manage well. In Jesus' words, **“to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away”** Matthew 25:29.

The righteous understands profit, and he doesn't eat too much rather, he shares. Remember after Peter was blessed, catching many fish even to the point of the breaking of the net, he and the disciples had to call others to share the blessing with.

What's the wisdom? Don't eat alone. When you've eaten enough for yourself, don't be preoccupied with storing up and storing up out of fear and poverty mentality. Rather, be a good stewards and share. This is why we work. In Paul's words, **“Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor,**

doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.” Ephesians 4:28
When we share, it increases our stewardship, and ability to eat better.

Eating too much is not good for our health. It makes us sleepy, feel sick, heavy, and unable to interact well.

The Spirit even tells us to be willing to share with others, for this is the purpose of financial riches. In Acts 4, we see that the apostolic church was a rich and wealthy church, because they shared everything. No one kept anything to himself and no one lacked anything. This covenant oneness is the only truth that breaks poverty, in any nation and for any nation.

When we tithe (*Hebrews 7:8*), it's an acknowledgment that everything is God's own. We must step into the realm of abundance, but we are not called to wastefulness or unholy luxury (*James 5:5*).

What am I saying? I'm saying there is holy eating and unholy eating. Let's talk about holy eating some more.

Eating Holy

Proverbs 25:16, Proverbs 23:6-8, Proverbs 23:20-21, 1 Corinthians 5:6-8, Romans 14:13-23, 1 Corinthians 10:7, 16-22, 25-31, 1 Corinthians 11:17-33.

Lets consider this holy eating in regards to God, our souls, our bodies and other people.

- (1) Eating as it has to do with God
- (2) Eating as it has to do with our souls
- (3) Eating as it has to do with our bodies
- (4) Eating as it has to do with other people

(1) *EATING AS REGARDS GOD*

Eating and drinking are one of the most holy things we do. This is because our bodies as believers are temples of the HolySpirit, so then, whatever we put in it, and how we eat, is a way to honor or dishonor the HolySpirit.

With Isreal, God taught them by manna, and with the apostles, Jesus taught them to ask for daily bread. This meant that the principle for eating and drinking is moderation, as allowed by

the Lord Jesus. Eating and drinking are great ways to maintain our devotion.

See what Paul said in **1 Corinthians 10:**

“Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play……. The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. Consider the people of Israel: are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar? What do I imply then? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. Shall we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?” 1 Corinthians 10:7, 16-22

Essentially, the way we eat impacts the spirit we allow to have influence over us, because of our balance, soundness and steadiness. Because of this, we shouldn't give ourselves to gluttony.

(2) EATING AS REGARDS OUR SOULS

Eating and drinking affects our souls. We wouldn't be speaking about eating and drinking if they didn't affect our souls. Eating and drinking can be a very strong way of cultivating fellowship with God, and the Holy Spirit. What we take into our bodies affect our souls, and impacts our spirits with the ability to express itself or be constrained.

By design, the body is connected to the soul and spirit. We must know what to eat and how to eat. There's a reason why the Jews had dietary laws and why the priests had a specific way of preparing the holy bread. There's a reason why one of their feasts was the feast of unleavened bread. This is the Passover. This is to commemorate redemption and faith in Jesus as their sacrifice, and the enjoyment of that sacrifice. Bread therefore is for fellowship.

“Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.” 1 Corinthians 5:6-8

Christ is the sacrifice, the passover Lamb. Bread is the

understanding of Christ for the enjoyment of the work of Christ. Leaven is anything that adds to the work of Christ, which is either flesh, or evil. We should be sincere and real with the celebration of this fellowship. Galatians 5:9 tells us that **“A little leaven leavens the whole lump”**.

(3) EATING IN REGARDS TO OUR BODIES

The man is intelligent. Every part of him is connected. God wouldn't have given the Israelites dietary laws if it didn't affect their faith and bodies. A balanced diet is key; things not too creamy, sugary, and bloody. Some things should be well cooked or roasted, and fresh fruits should be fresh. This actually helps our health and healing. It's said that we are what we eat and drink. We have to eat what's good for our bodies. What's not so artificial.

We must see the connection between what we eat and our souls. There are soul-laws that are accessed by body engagements.

When we look at Proverbs 25:16, we read, **“If you have found honey, eat only enough for you, lest you have your fill of it and vomit it,”** showing us that even good food should be eaten in moderation. When we don't eat in moderation, we would be affected and upset by it. When we continue to eat

BEYOND SENSE

what we are supposed to share, that's a problem.

The purpose we are often given more, is so that we can share. This is abundance. This is prosperity of soul, and not poverty. It's poverty of soul that seeks too much luxury. Prosperity of soul is content and knows how to steward abundance.

(4) *EATING AS REGARDS OTHERS*

When people like to eat alone, not wanting to share, they will lose some aspects of growth in the soul. Truly, a liberal soul shall be made fat (*Proverbs 11:25*).

“Do not eat the bread of a man who is stingy; do not desire his delicacies, for he is like one who is inwardly calculating. “Eat and drink!” he says to you, but his heart is not with you. You will vomit up the morsels that you have eaten, and waste your pleasant words.” Proverbs 23:6-8

This proverb shows us that eating too much impairs our judgement, and affect our speaking. We waste words.

Have you noticed that if someone wants to get you to reveal secrets, they can take you to dinner, and have you eat well. When the belly is full, the soul is free to express. We must know this. Eating stirs fellowship.

“Be not among drunkards or among gluttonous eaters of meat, for the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty, and slumber will clothe them with rags.” Proverbs 23:20-21

It's clear that eating too much, is not good, both for personal lives and finances. Every hardworking person does not eat too much. This is part of what it means to live a fasted life.

SO THEN, When we read Romans 14:13-23, we would read of the experience of salvation, and the living out of the knowledge of God through walking in love, acting in faith, and seeking the glory of God.

These walking in love, acting in faith and seeking the glorious hope are expressed through our judgments in the very simple things of daily living.

Eating and drinking is one. We are called to eat and drink to the glory of God. We go to church only a couple times a week, and the idea of going to the temple is that we are going into God's economy to give Him pleasure, and when we are leaving, we are leaving with God's power. Now that our bodies are the temples of the Spirit, what goes into it and how we are afterwards matters.

BEYOND SENSE

HOW MUCH EATING IS TOO MUCH?

(1) If my brother is grieved by what I eat, though I'm free, I'm constrained by the body of Christ. This is a holy sense. It's holy restrain.

What are some things I can eat that will grieve my brother?

(a) Eating too much, which means not having times of fasting. When we do not fast often, we can grieve Jesus. We can grieve our friend the Holy Spirit who might be leading us to fast.

(b) Eating too much on communion days or communion gatherings, in such a way that other brothers have nothing to eat. **1 Corinthians 11:17-33** tells us about this.

(c) Eating wastefully when others do not have what to eat. It sends a message of being a bad steward, being self-indulgent and not caring. God doesn't like waste.

(d) Eating what's set before us when we are on missions. Not being too particular in the homes of others. **"Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you."** Luke 10:8. Also, we read of the same in **1 Corinthians 10:27-28**.

CONSEQUENCES TO BAD EATING

(a) Weakness

(b) Sickness

(c) Mortal death

(d) Sensuality

02 Is drinking alcohol an issue? Why?

It impairs judgement and perverts righteousness.

“Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise.” Proverbs 20:1. ***“Whoever loves pleasure will be a poor man; he who loves wine and oil will not be rich”*** Proverbs 21:17. ***“Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has strife? Who has complaining? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? Those who tarry long over wine; those who go to try mixed wine”*** Proverbs 23:29-30. ***“It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine, or for rulers to take strong drink, lest they drink and forget what has been decreed and pervert the rights of all the afflicted.”*** Proverbs 31:4-5

Many business meetings are done over wine, or over a drinks. Business is essentially about the interplay of righteous, or unrighteous judgements, and wine is an influencer of judgements.

Worldly wisdom tries to bend our will by influencing it with wine. Many decisions are made in lounges or offices with wine on the table. This is worldly fellowship. But many good decisions are also made in prayer, fasting, meditation and

fellowship, when we are very attuned to the Spirit's inspiration.

Even Jesus had to say, can you drink of my cup? Referring to the willingness to partake in His sufferings. Paul talks about the table of the Lord and the table of demons (*1 Corinthians 10*). Wine inspires a certain kind of fellowship. Knowing this, Paul uses it as an illustration for the kingdom. That the kingdom of God is an intoxication, but not of natural wine unto unrighteousness, but of spiritual wine unto righteousness. This wine is the HolySpirit and praying in the Spirit. Though we might eat the bread of life once, we drink the wine of the Spirit always, without ceasing. We also see this play out in our daily experience when we drink more often than we eat.

So then, when we are going to business meetings, to work, to negotiations, we have to be filled with something, or someone. We have to be under an influence, and this influence is the influence of the HolySpirit.

It's the HolySpirit and the joy of heaven that influences our judgements positively. When we know this, we pursue being filled (*Ephesians 5:18*), before doing everything we need to do-before meeting people, and doing things.

So then, though tasting alcohol is not sin, and we don't need to condemn ourselves for tasting alcohol, however, coming

BEYOND SENSE

under the influence of alcohol is sin, and not wise, because it impairs our judgments. Drunkenness is sin and unwise.

What we've said here is that there's holy drinking and unholy drinking.

Holy Drinking

Revelation 22:1, Leviticus 17:13-14, Matthew 26:27-29, 1 Timothy 5:23, Proverbs 31:6-7.

(1) *DRINKING & GOD.*

Just like eating, drinking is a quick means of devotion. Water washes and cleanses us, because our bodies were made from water. The earth was made from water, and because of this, we ought to always be hydrated. This shows us that the human body was made to be the temple of the Holy Spirit. This is why Jesus washed people's feet, and also had them baptized in water. Water also refreshes us. The body is meant to drink water, both externally and internally.

The Holy Spirit Himself is called the River of the water of life (*Revelation 22:1*). The Blood of Jesus is the next liquid that's holy in time, and separate unto God. That's why men were forbidden from eating or drinking blood (*Leviticus 17:13-14*). There's only one blood we are to drink from, and that's

the blood of Jesus Christ. **“For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him”** John 6:55-56.

Again Jesus said, **“Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom”** Matthew 26:27-29,

The blood of Jesus, is the highest speaking liquid, which speak spirit and life. The River of the water of life flows from Emmanuel’s veins. This blood is full of life, vitality, fullness, replenishing and all.

This blood is what wine represents. Wine is a representation of the blood. It’s a representation of life and love and intoxication.

Now, there are two kinds of blood, corrupt and incorrupt. So also, there are two kinds of drinking, corrupt drinking and incorrupt drinking.

The incorrupt drinking helps the spiritual judgement and healing, while corrupt drinking weakens spiritual judgement and causes fainting.

BEYOND SENSE

ALCOHOL & THE BODY

In regards to this incorrupt drinking, Paul said, “**(No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments)**” 1 Timothy 5:23. This incorrupt use of alcohol is for helping the stomach to balance its alkalinity without being, because Timothy was bodily prone to an illness. This advice was for the purpose of restoration and healing. This is supported by the proverbs 31:6-7 that says, “**Give strong drink to the one who is perishing, and wine to those in bitter distress; let them drink and forget their poverty and remember their misery no more**” Proverbs 31:6-7. Strong drink is for bringing some kind of relief.

We know that alcohols are used a lot for preserving foods and used in medicine. This is not for enjoyment, but for relief.

Also, during the communion, when they drank alcohol, they were advised to drink just a little, because they had houses to eat and drink in **1 Corinthians 11**.

ALCOHOL & THE SOUL

There's corrupt drinking, and this is when wine is taken too much, beyond its proper measure. It affects judgement. It intoxicates the soul under another spirit, and not the Spirit of God.

Satan uses this a lot.

Wisdom tells us that **“Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise”** Proverbs 20:1. So then, wine gives access to a spirit that leads.

While eating is the baseline, the big picture, wine is for flow and emphasis, and present witness. Wine leads.

The lover of wine will be led along wrong decisions a lot and will miss unique time lines. Our wine is the Holy Spirit and we drink of Him when we pray without ceasing. The result is that we would be rich in grace. Truly, **“Whoever loves pleasure will be a poor man; he who loves wine and oil will not be rich”** Proverbs 21:17.

To love wine so much is dangerous because it puts the soul and the body in a very unclear state.

ALCOHOL & THE BODY

“Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has strife? Who has complaining? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? Those who tarry long over wine; those who go to try mixed wine” Proverbs 23:29-30

Drinking wine into the body inordinately influences the body. That’s why Paul speaks saying **“don’t be drunk with wine,**

BEYOND SENSE

which leads to debauchery” (*Ephesians 5:18*), which is losing the glory on immortality. Being drunk leads to sensuality; it trains the body in selfish indulgence, but drinking of the Spirit trains the body on spirituality. **1 Corinthians 15:50-56** shows us that we must die daily, meaning, we must drink the new wine daily.

Jesus turns water to wine in **John 2**, where He did his first miracle, telling us that the foundational transformation is being turned from water to wine. This is the movement of the Spirit, to intoxicate us rightly, so that we are full of Him.

ALCOHOL & OTHERS

“It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine, or for rulers to take strong drink, lest they drink and forget what has been decreed and pervert the rights of all the afflicted.” Proverbs 31:4-5

Lastly, Jesus said, **“Neither is new wine put into old wineskins. If it is, the skins burst and the wine is spilled and the skins are destroyed. But new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved”** Matthew 9:17

Wine represents the favor and influence of Christ by the Spirit.

03 For King & Country

Living to serve God the creator and others

“Many seek the face of a ruler, but it is from the LORD that a man gets justice.” Proverbs 29:26

Context is the mother of interpretation, understanding, and participation. Let’s learn contexts.

The big context of lifestyle is authority and sovereignty. What makes us different from others is that we have sovereignty over our own affairs. We can choose and another can choose. Everybody has freewill, because this is how the Creator has made us. The Creator has sovereign will, which is freer than human freewill.

It’s with this sovereignty that God sets justice and righteousness, by His own authority.

Part of what He created are thrones, authorities, rulers and powers. Paul said, **“For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the**

dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.” Colossians 1:16-20

From here, we see two kinds of authority.

(1) *Absolute Authority*

(2) *Delegated Authority*

When we look at the delegated authority too, we see two kinds.

(I) *Spiritual Authority*

(II) *Political Authority*

All these authorities, are either

(a) *Personal Authority*, or

(b) *Official Authority*.

When we look at God’s “absolute authority”, it’s both personal, and also official. It’s personal in the sense that God is inherently the only sovereign. That’s what Paul was telling us in 1 Timothy 6:15 when he says “the only sovereign”. That’s

what John saw when the angels cried “Holy Holy Holy”. God is the highest personal authority.

Yet, God is also, official authority. There’s a form of God, that is operated by the Father, Son and HolySpirit. That’s what Paul was speaking of when he said Jesus “was in the form of God”, and what Jesus was saying when He said that “the Father will send another helper of the same kind”, the HolySpirit. They were both saying that there’s an office called God, where any person that lives in that office can have access to the eternal life, eternal nature and eternal power that exists there.

No man will ever become God, in the sense that he or she will have absolute personal authority, but men can enter into the economy of God. We can become partakers of the divine nature and power, which is what happens when we come into Christ and are filled with the HolySpirit.

We are personally changed by God, and we can share in His name, and in His kingdom, and in His life, and in His nature, and in His power.

All these we share personally, by virtue of our own personal faith, personal transformation and personal obedience. All these is what is called spiritual authority. We give access to the flow of the HolySpirit in our vessels. This is why we learn

BEYOND SENSE

faith, we learn the glory and transform, we learn obedience through tribulation. All of this is so that we can grow in ranking, because God has created different authorities, dominions, rulers and all. These are different administrations of eternal verities and heavenly realities.

When we grow and demonstrate spiritual authority as sons of God, we please God. All our inheritances are captured under these spiritual authorities. This is what sonship is about. This is what stature is all about. This is what having the basis for manifesting the power of God is about. This is what wisdom comes to accomplish in us. This is what the Gospel comes to accomplish in us.

This spiritual authority means that we are vitally known by the realm of the spirit, by demons and angels. We have learnt to speak the language of demons and angels, which is, God's will and God's authority. With the God side, obedience is the major principle, with the dark side, sacrifice is the major principle. ***This is because all obedience is sacrifice, but not all sacrifice is obedience.***

When Paul speaks of we being a living sacrifice, he is speaking of we being obedient, but when the Bible says God loves obedience and not sacrifice, he is speaking about that self-denial that's not according to God's Will. That asceticism and

seeking of supernatural experiences that attract demons.

For believers, who have spiritual authority, it's still delegated authority. That's what Jesus meant when He said, "**The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward**" Matthew 10:41. Jesus tells us that the prophet and the righteous person have spiritual authority, and this is the ability to administer power and things and rewards.

What then is political authority? It's a kind of official authority. It's not personal authority. It's having access to the things of God without access to God Himself. God made this possible by mercy and grace, so that the host of mankind wouldn't be completely lost after they sin. So that they would have a sense of His presence and benevolence through His things.

Some people do not know this. Because they have the things of God, they assume they have God. Moses knew this, that's why he asked God, "***show me your glory***" in Exodus 33. He knew that he knew the things of God, but he wanted God Himself to be with them. He wanted a personal relationship. That's what we have in the face of Jesus Christ.

BEYOND SENSE

When we live before the face of Jesus, we are living before the presence and personal authority of Jesus. That's why it's possible for some who have tasted the good word of God, powers of the age to come, shared in the Holy Spirit, once enlightened, to turn back. They can slip back into prioritizing the things of God, more than God Himself. They now have an official relationship, more than a personal relationship.

It's of these kind of people and to these kind that Jesus said, **"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'"** Matthew 7:21-23. They knew the name, but they didn't know the Lord. The Will of God Himself is what flows into the name. We must go for the Will, not just the name.

Many seek a name for themselves through the name, but all who know the Will only seek the glory of God Himself.

There are those in God's church who are more interested in the things of God, and some of these things can be learnt by principles, and knowledge. That's why many things can be

taught by unbelievers, and can be learnt by unbelievers, but God Himself, can only be known through spiritual wisdom, and spiritual knowledge that's revealed by the HolySpirit. This is the training of the conscience, to be able to hear God and follow God. That's why we pray often.

The government officials then, are those that God appoints officially to administer the earthly resources for the earthly people. They are to be skilled in management and natural righteousness. **Romans 13:1-7** tells and shows us this. This is an interim government though, that's temporal, because Jesus will soon show up with His own rule and reign.

Right now, He is seated on His Father's throne in heaven (**Hebrews 1:3-4**), that's the name He has, Lord and Christ. That's the throne from which the HolySpirit comes (**Revelation 22:1**). Yet, in time, He is coming to set up His glorious throne here on earth. **"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left."** Matthew 25:31-33, which is repeated in Matthew 19:28. It's this His glorious throne that He invites us to today, calling us to overcome in **Revelation 3:21**. He invites us to share in this, that's why He

BEYOND SENSE

said ***“The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne”*** Revelation 3:21.

This shows us that our hope is not a temporary hope; it’s not for this life alone (***1 Corinthians 15:19, 2 Corinthians 5:1–10***). Our hope is one of reigning with Christ. It’s that hope that faith substantiates today, through spiritual authority. True spiritual authority has impact on every other realm, mental and natural. That’s how come healing, deliverance, transformation, discipleship and all are possible.

It’s on this basis that we live for King and for country. To live for the King, we must always live under His absolute authority and His delegated authority, both spiritual and political. That’s the conclusion.

Many have learnt to trust other governments, and true, many other governments do better than some others, but as soon as they put their trust in them, that’s a set up. That’s unwise. That’s preparation for eternal disappointment.

Because of this dispensation that we are in, we are to walk in wisdom towards outsiders, considering their own delegated authority. Paul said, ***“Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.”*** Colossians 4:5-6. We should

speak wisely and full of eternal judgement.

So then,

(I) Government are given to nations by God, so that they will shadow authority, and train the people to seek the true authority, which is God. **Acts 17:14-27.**

(ii) We should be subject to the government, pray for them and speak well of them. **1 Peter 2.**

In the end, our aim is this:

“So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him” 2 Corinthians 5:9. It’s the face of God that we seek, not the face of a ruler, for justice will come from God and not from the ruler.

If we look at this another way, we would see this conversation as a conversation of hope: temporal hope and lasting hope.

Even Jesus once said, **“render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s”** Matthew 22:21, showing us that Caesar bears a temporal hope but God bears an eternal and blessed hope. Some of these scriptures give us insight on how to relate with the present government and with other people with whom we are in this present

government. ***Proverbs 29:26, Romans 13:1-7, Acts 17:24-27, Colossians 4:5-6.***

There's "delegated justice" and "eternal justice". The governor of an earthly state, can give an earthly hope, but true justice only comes from God. So then, as citizens, our hearts and thoughts towards the governors and government is a way of devotion to the Lord.

Also, the way we relate to every human being, with whom we share one earthly government is also a devotion to the Lord.

RELATING WITH GOVERNMENTS

Many have looked at different nations, and have trusted in those governors and governments than God. This is wrong. This is what leads to apostasy, to allegiance to Babylon, Egypt, and ultimately Gog and Magog, at Armageddon.

It's a very dangerous thing to trust the government of man, more than the government of God.

Truly, many hope and seek the face of a ruler, meaning, they seek the pleasure of a ruler, because they can receive certain things from the ruler, justice and benefits of justice, but the problem with this is that everything that a ruler can give is temporal. At best, this ruler is a good delegated authority,

or he or she could even be a bad delegated authority. All authority comes from God (*Romans 13:1-3*). The role of delegated authority is to manage the things that God gives. The government is the military, political and general delegated authority, while the church is the spiritual and personal delegated authority. When we read *Romans 13:1-7*, we would see this civil government and church government.

Church government encourages people to do things out of good conscience and out of love, while civil government encourages people to do things for external rewards and to avoid punishment. Civil governments focus on the actions, while the church focuses on the consciences and the beliefs.

It's this, that gives the church its role in the government. When we live for King and country, we are living for the glory of God, amongst a people who do not know the glory of God, but only know the glory of man.

That's why Paul said, **“Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person”** *Colossians 4:5-6*. We are to walk in wisdom towards outsiders. We are not to take all the time, because with the short time or attention span they have, we are to demonstrate the grace of God through our speech,

BEYOND SENSE

and holy sense, being flexible in answering different people.

These outsiders don't understand faith, hope and love, but they understand actions, words, and character. This is how we witness, faith, hope and love before others.

RELATING WITH OTHERS

As we said earlier, Another place of our devotion to the Lord is the way we relate with outsiders. God created man. They are His image bearers, and they are originally holy unto the Lord. God loves people. This is what John 3:16 tells us. He sent Christ for all (*Romans 5:8, 1 John 2:2*). God is righteousness, and in His righteousness, He had mercy on mankind and loved mankind (*Ephesians 2:4*), if God would do that, then, we should be able to do same for Him, because He is kind, and we should also be able to do it for our country because our country is part of His kingdom.

See what Paul said, **“The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and**