



“But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the will of God for themselves.” - Matt. 24:4-5

Test all Things

Part 2

“Test all things; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.”

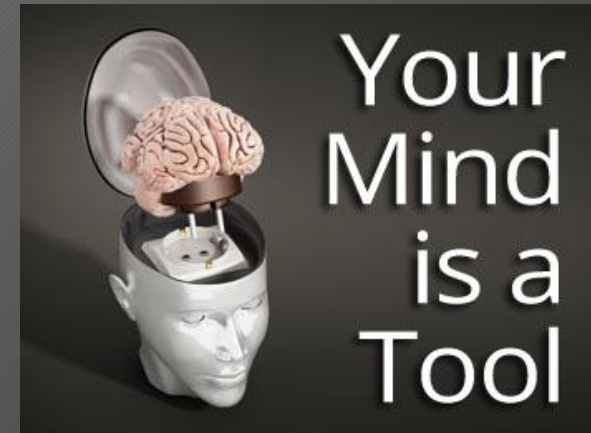
- 1 Thes. 5:21-22

Recap

- The importance of testing
 - There is a true force working against humanity
 - Satan wants us to be consumed in sin/corruption
 - Deception is his trademark
- There is a Standard
- All things qualify for testing
- Part 2
 - Tools of Measurement
 - Opponents to Sound Testing
 - The Safe Haven

Tools of Measurement

- REASON
- “Come now, and let us reason together,” Says the Lord, “Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.” (Is. 1:18)
- “Therefore he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and with the Gentile worshipers, and in the marketplace daily with those who happened to be there.” (Acts 17:17)



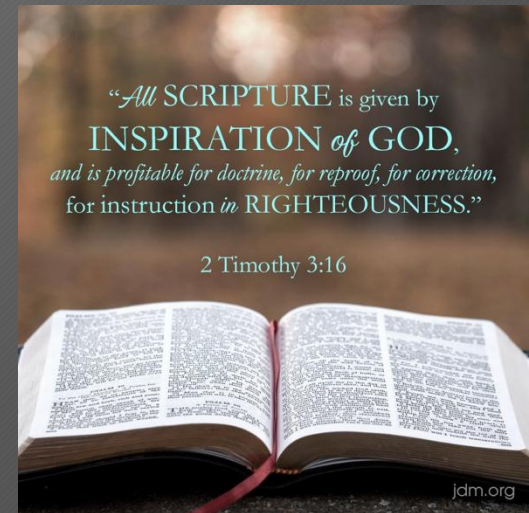
Tools of Measurement

- CONSCIENCE
- EX: Woman caught in adultery (Jn. 8:7, 9)
- “He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first.”
- “Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last.”



Tools of Measurement

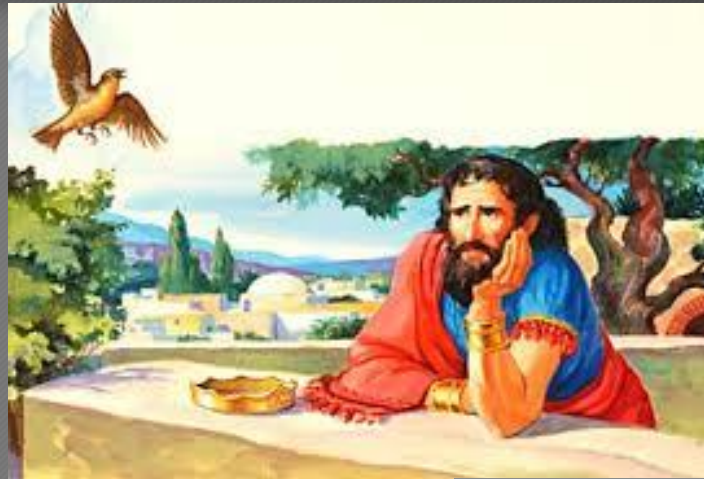
- SCRIPTURE
- “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- Ex: People of Berea
 - “These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.” (Acts 17:11)



Tools of Measurement

- HISTORY

- David
- Cain
- Solomon

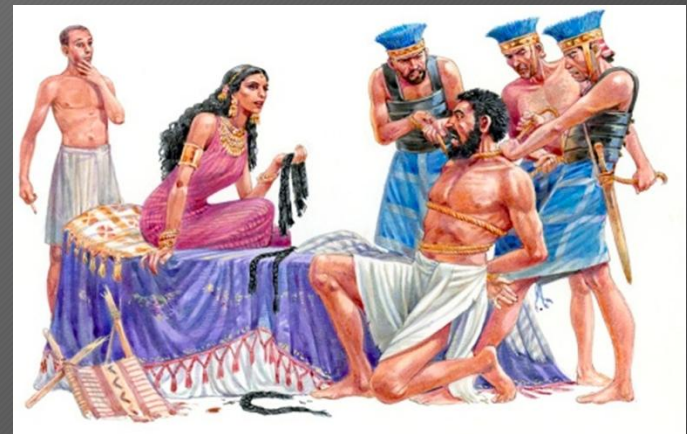


Tools of Measurement

- COUNSEL
- *“Only a fool learns from his own mistakes. The wise man learns from the mistakes of others.”* (Otto von Bismarck)
- **“He who disdains instruction despises his own soul, But he who heeds rebuke gets understanding.”** (Pro. 15:32)

Opponents to Sound Reason

- The Ego
 - One may skew all his tools to satisfy one's ego
 - Ex: Samson
- “Do not judge”



“Do not Judge”

- This phrase is heavily misused
 - Judging is encouraged in Scripture under certain circumstances
1. Those placed in positions of responsibility
 - Parents
 - “Do not withhold instruction from a child, for if you should strike him with a rod, he would not die; for you shall strike him with a rod and deliver his soul from death.” (Prov. 23:13-14 LXX)

“Do not Judge”

- Spiritual fathers

- “Yet, if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul. (Ezk. 3:19)

2. Distinguishing between good and evil

- The Lord offers us valuable advice for life: “You will know them by their fruits.” (Matt. 7:16 & 20)
- “And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.” (Eph. 5:11)

The Safe Haven

1. Be teachable
2. Frequent counsel
3. Searching Scripture
 - “These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.” (Acts 17:11)