

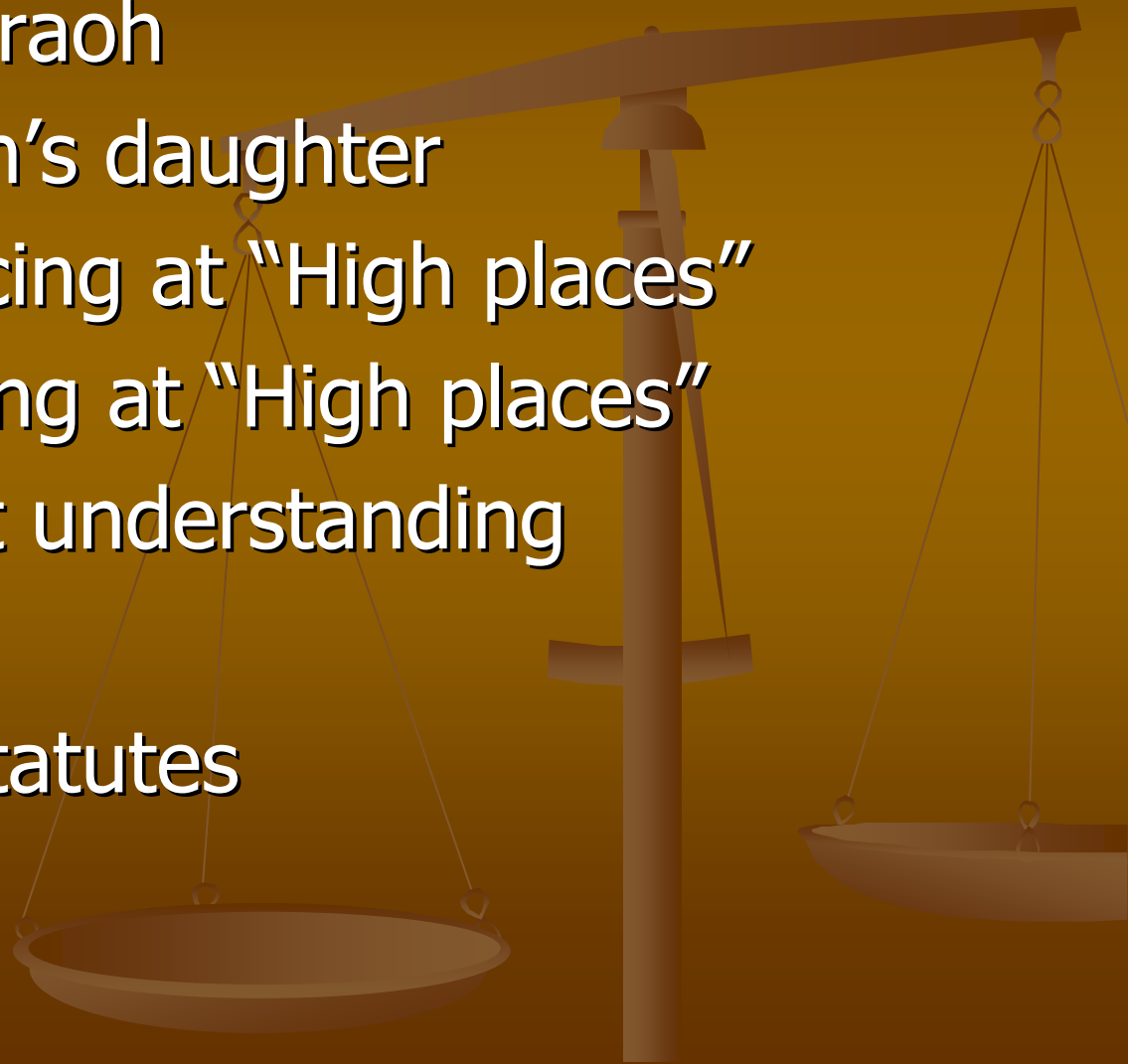
Understanding



I Kings 3:1-15

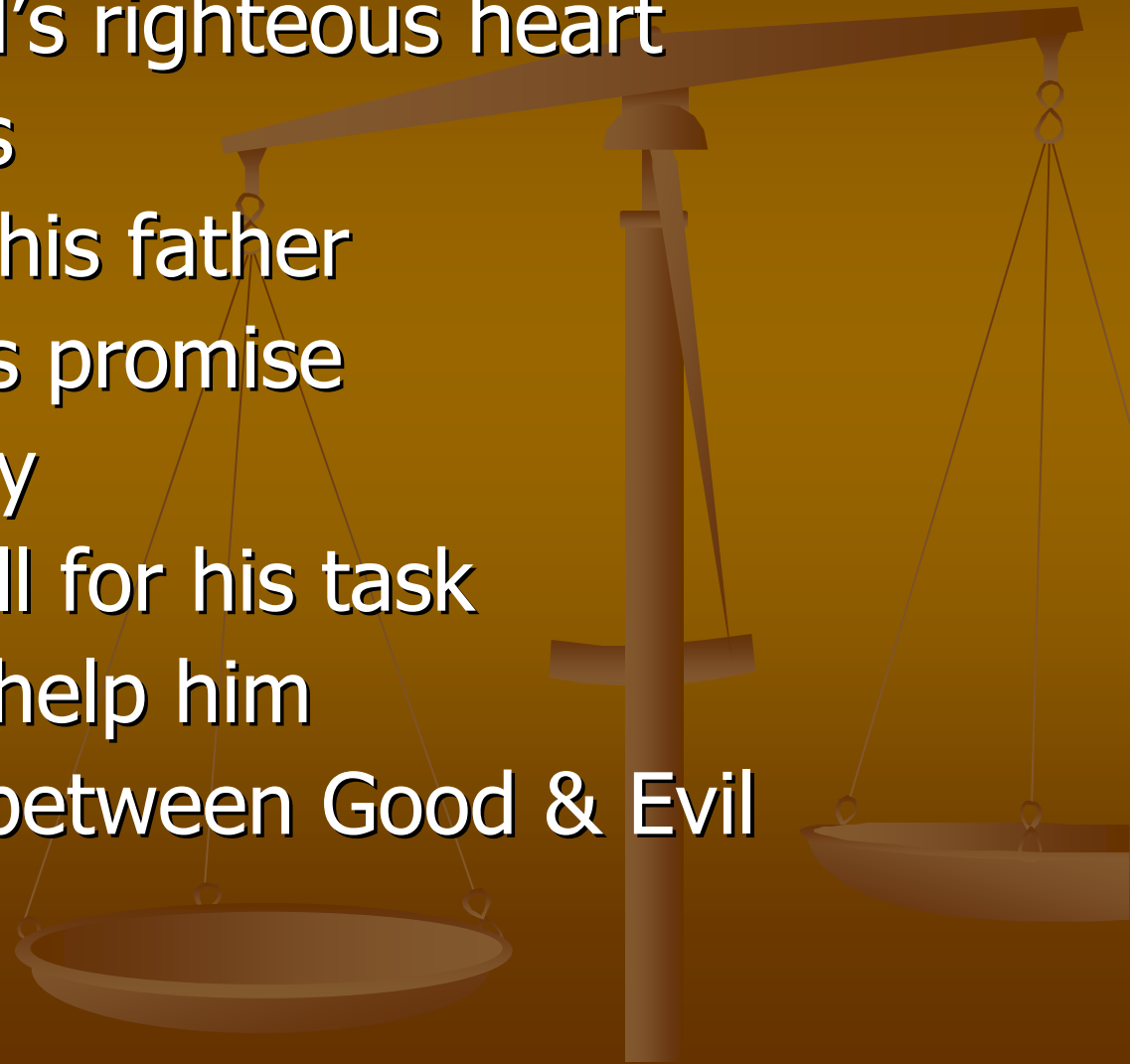
Solomon before Understanding

- Treaty with Pharaoh
- Married Pharaoh's daughter
- A Nation sacrificing at "High places"
- Himself sacrificing at "High places"
- Youth – without understanding
- Loved God
- Walked in His statutes



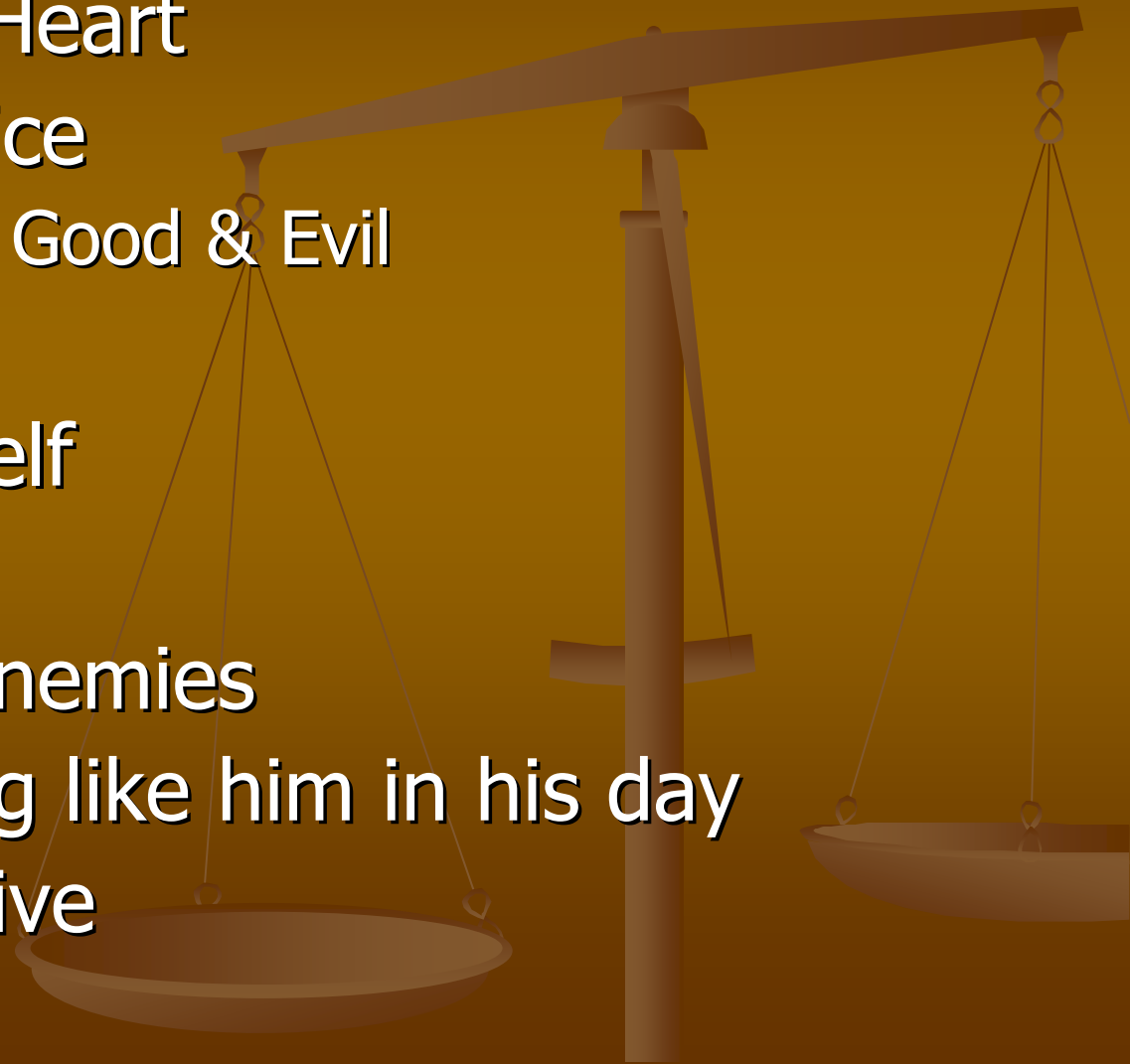
What Solomon Saw

- His father David's righteous heart
- His Father's sins
- God's mercy to his father
- God fulfilling His promise
- His responsibility
- His own shortfall for his task
- God's ability to help him
- The difference between Good & Evil



What Solomon Received

- Understanding Heart
- To Discern Justice
 - Judge between Good & Evil
- Long life
- Riches for himself
- Honor
- The life of his enemies
- Not another king like him in his day
- Wisest ever to live



Our Understanding



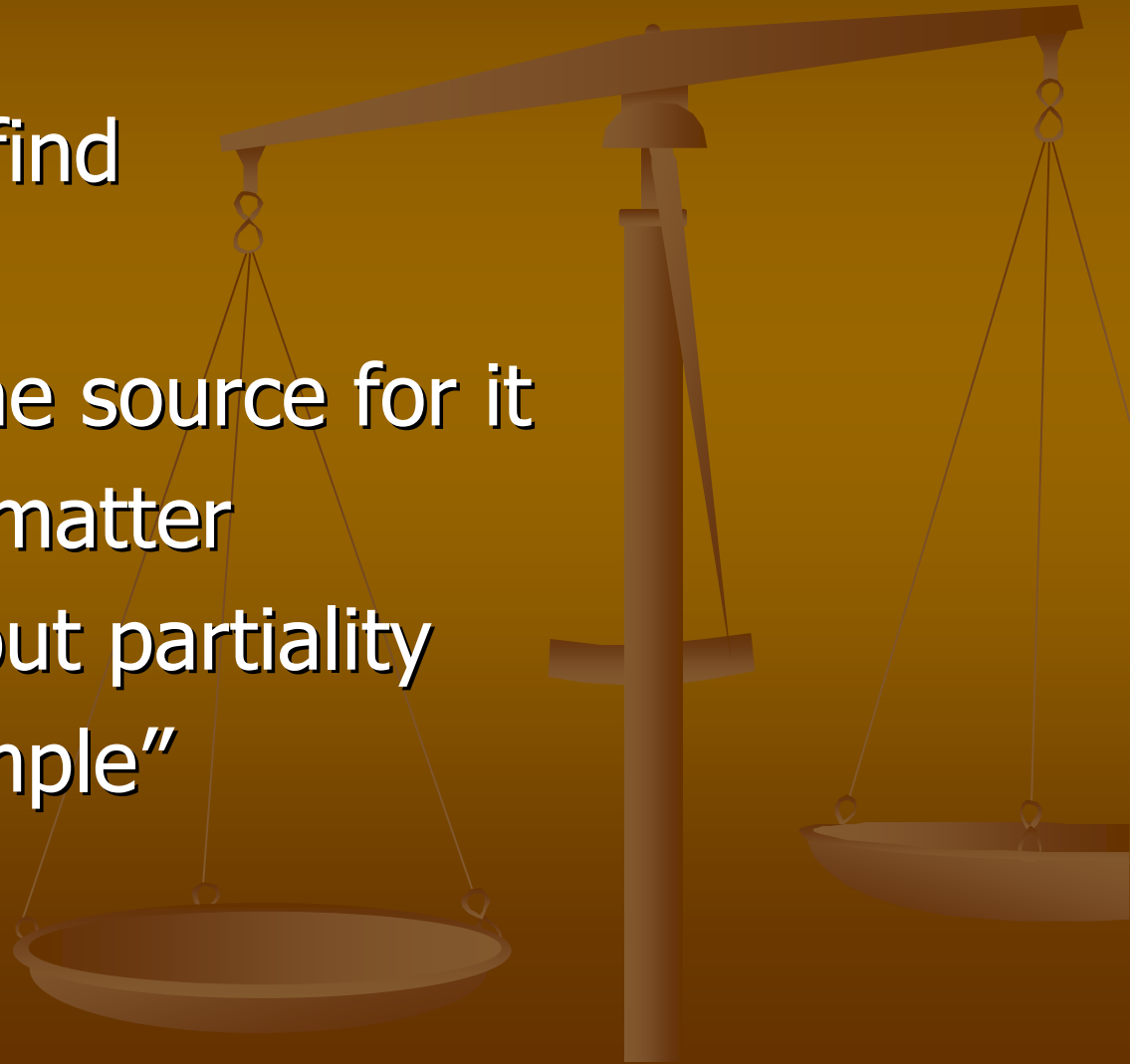
Before Understanding

- Futility of mind
- Understanding darkened
- Alienated from life of God
- Because of ignorance
- Hardening of heart
- Claiming to see when you do not
- Sin blinds – we don't see
- Self Righteousness

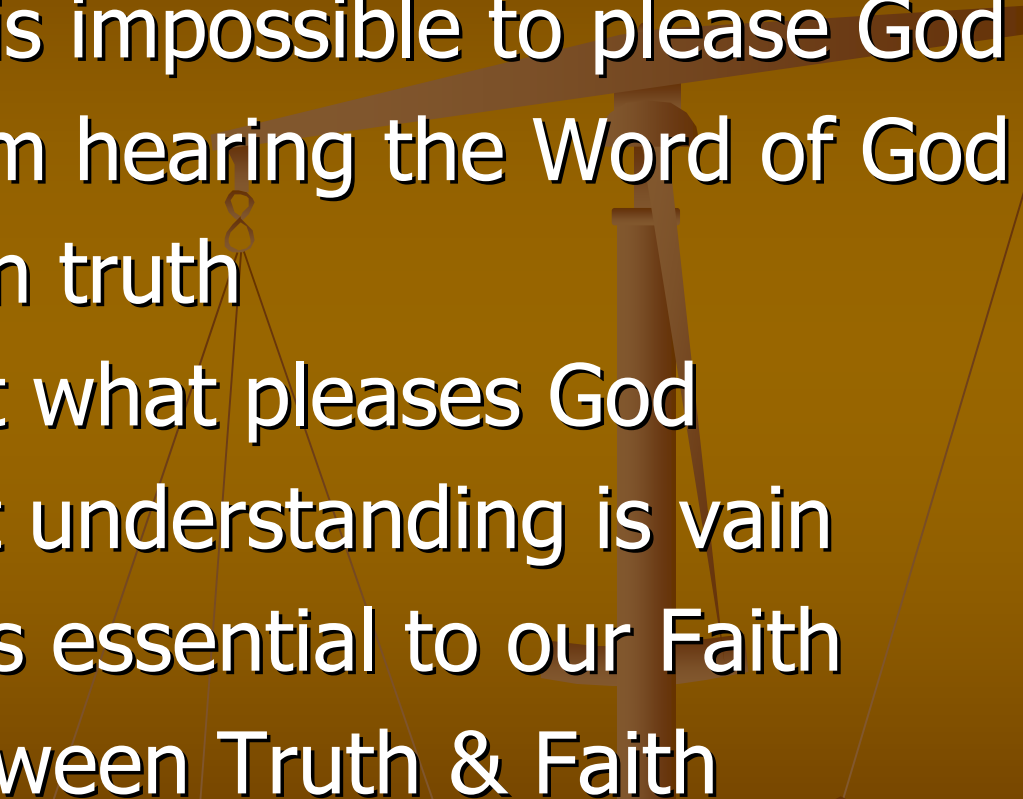


About Understanding

- It is hidden
- It is difficult to find
- It is findable
- There is only one source for it
- The Jot & Title matter
- God gives without partiality
- It is for the "Simple"

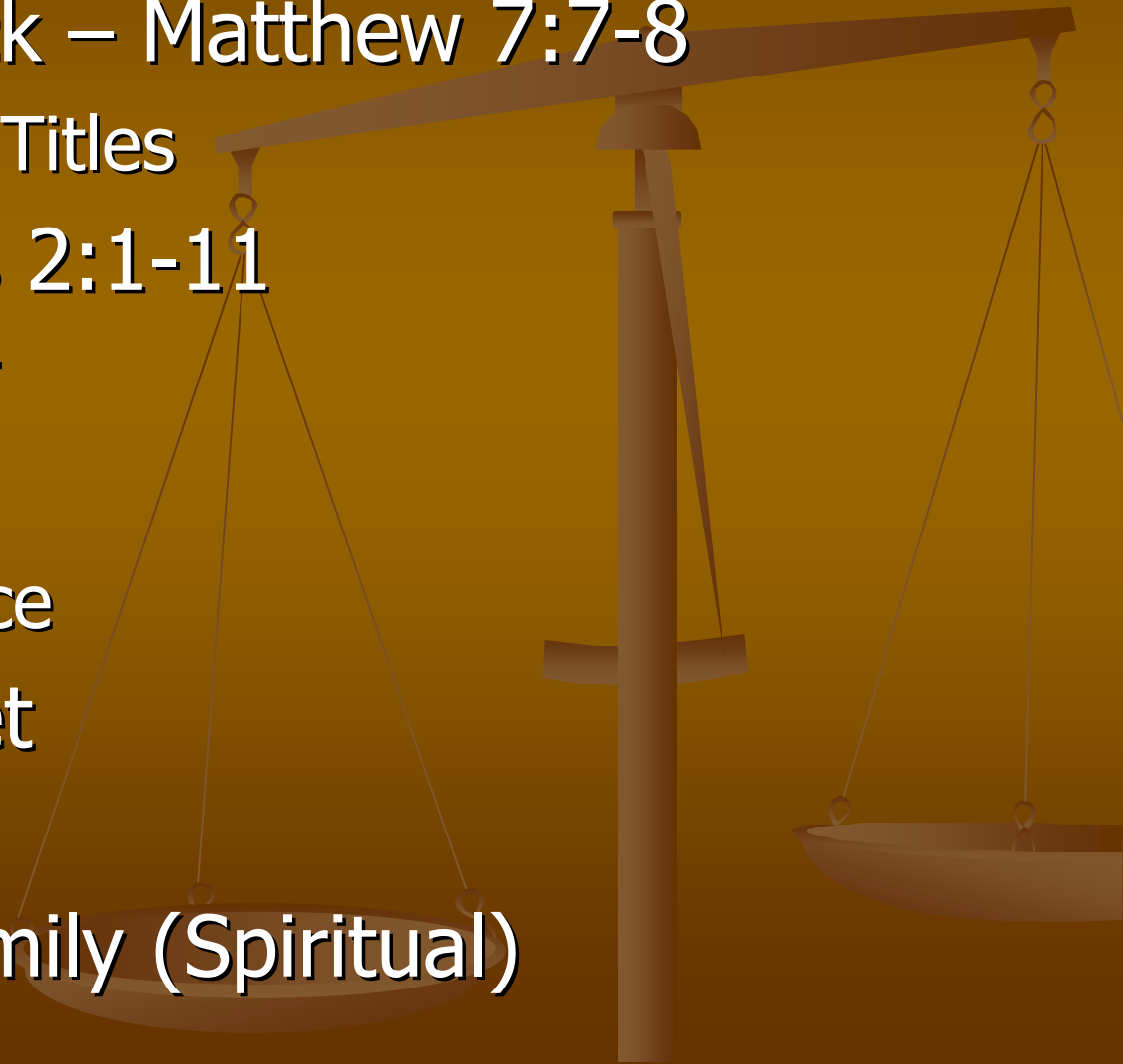


Why is Understanding important?

- Without faith it is impossible to please God
 - Faith comes from hearing the Word of God
 - Faith is based on truth
 - Blind faith is not what pleases God
 - Hearing and not understanding is vain
 - Understanding is essential to our Faith
 - It is the link between Truth & Faith
- 

How do we get it?

- Ask, Seek, Knock – Matthew 7:7-8
 - Find the Jots & Titles
- Read - Proverbs 2:1-11
 - Incline your ear
- Beg
 - Lift up your voice
- Go in your closet
 - Cry out
- Be with your family (Spiritual)

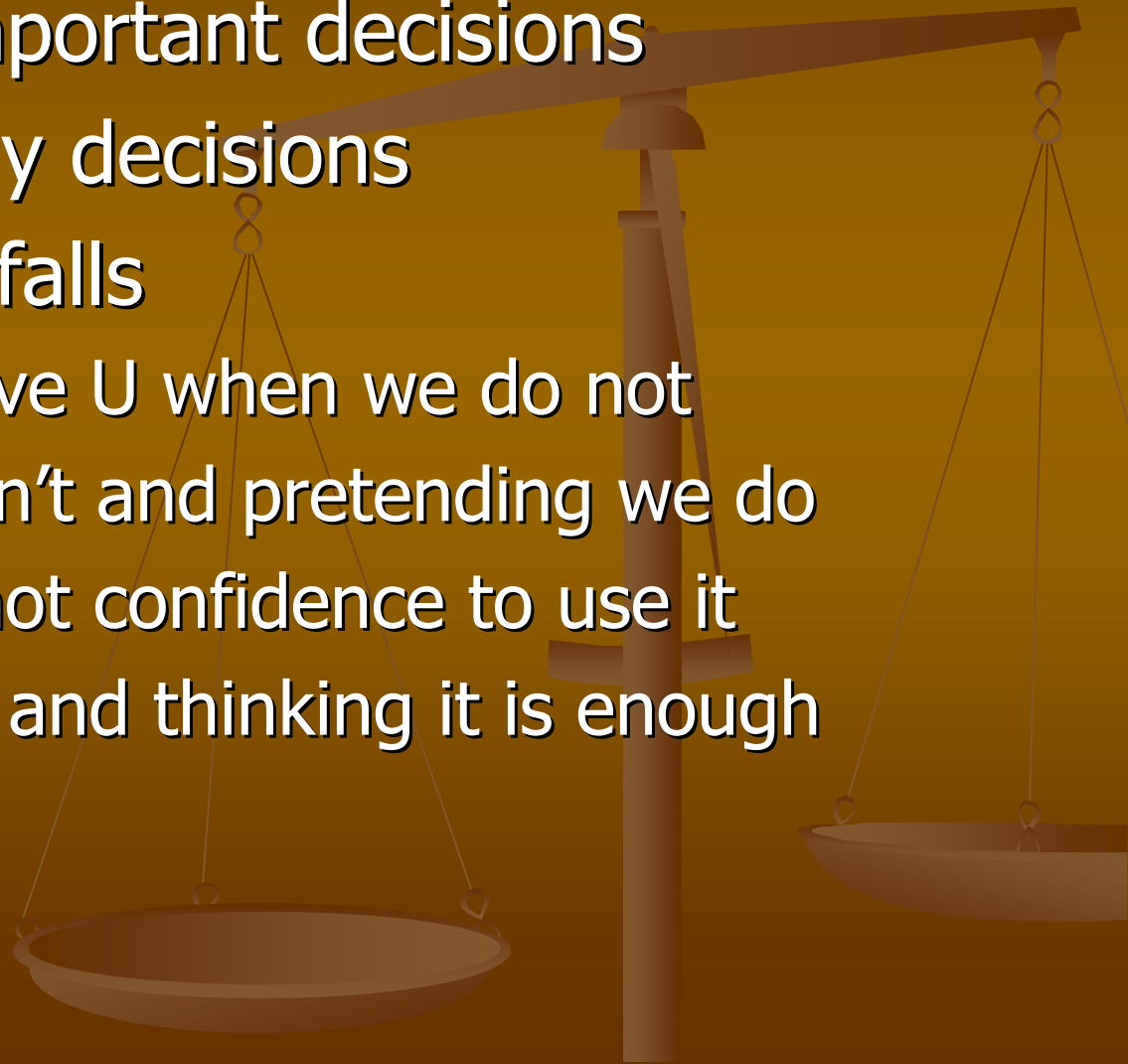


Understanding God

- In all things – II Timothy 2:7, II Pet. 1:3
 - All things are plain – Proverbs 8:1-11
 - Words of the Kingdom – Matthew 13:19
 - It builds up – I Corinthians 14:11-17
 - Love is greater – I Cor. 13:2, Eph. 3:19
 - Peace passes it – Philippians 4:17
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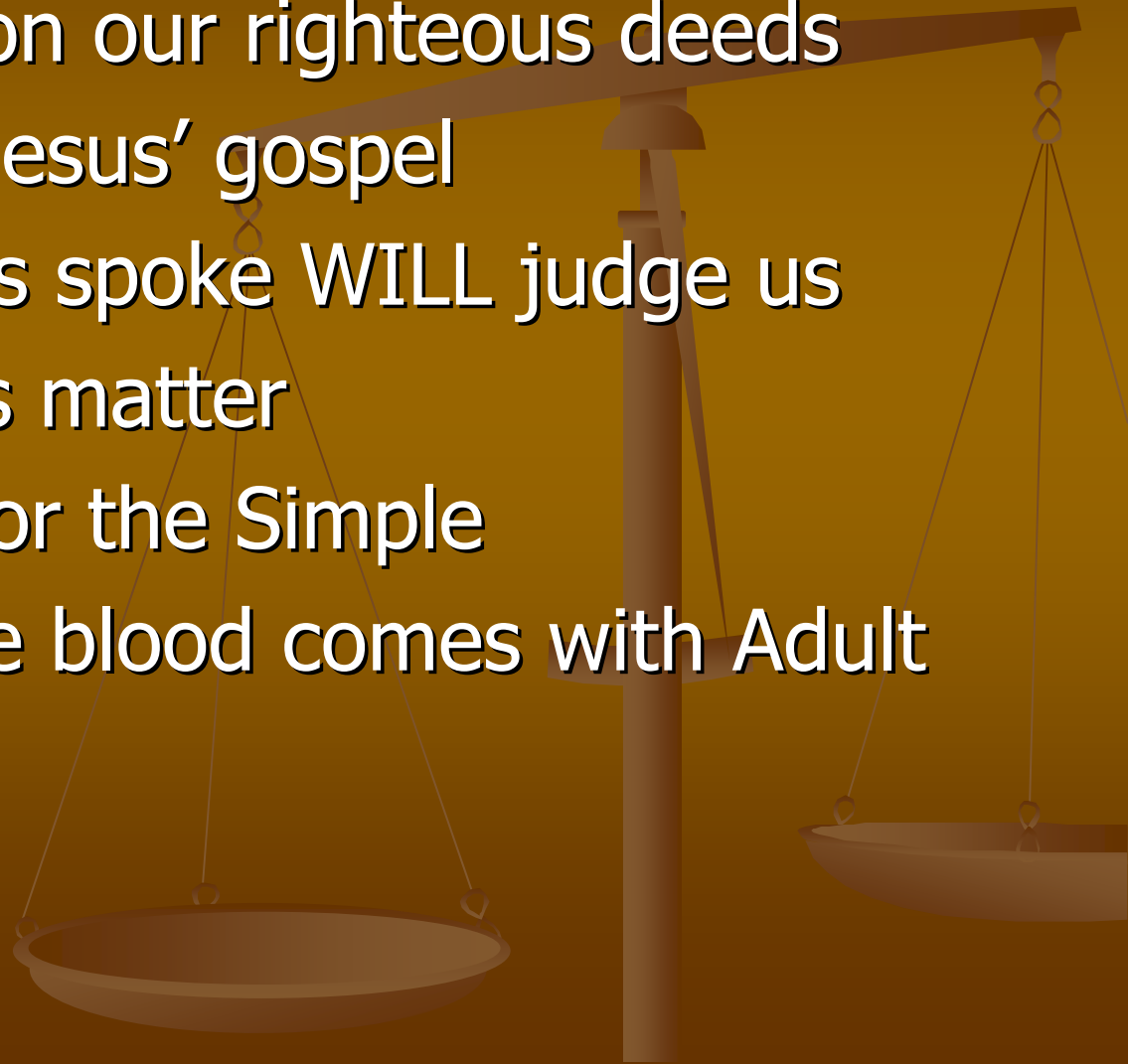
Discerning Good from Evil

- In life's most important decisions
- In life's everyday decisions
- Avoiding the pitfalls
 - Thinking we have U when we do not
 - Knowing we don't and pretending we do
 - Having U, but not confidence to use it
 - Having some U and thinking it is enough



Discerning God's Justice

- It is not based on our righteous deeds
- It IS based on Jesus' gospel
- The words Jesus spoke WILL judge us
- The Jot & Tittle's matter
- Justification is for the Simple
- Contact with the blood comes with Adult Baptism



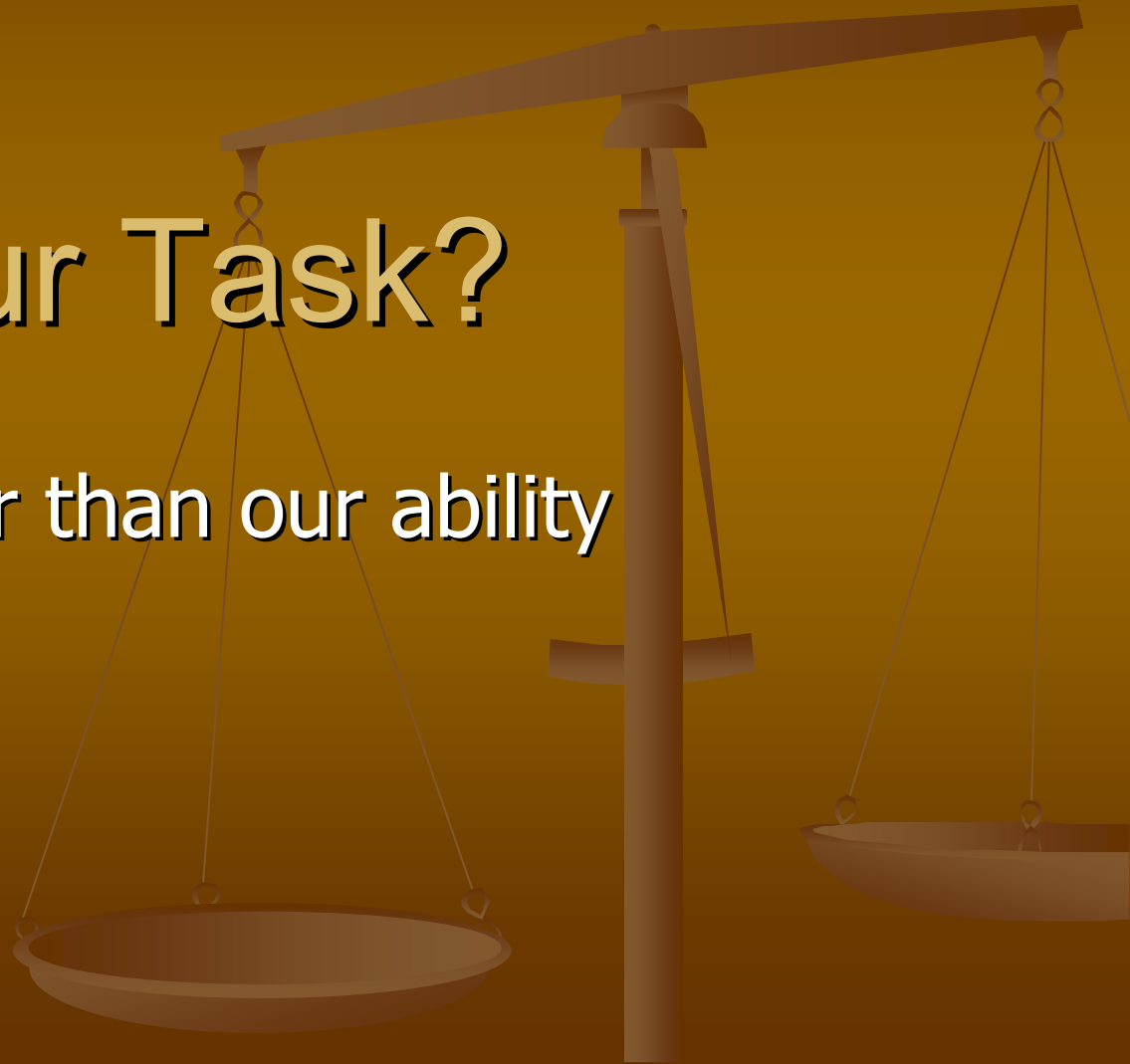


Our Condition?

Without understanding

Our Task?

Greater than our ability





Our sacrifices?

In "High Places?"



Our Love?

For God & His statutes



Our Request?

Understanding

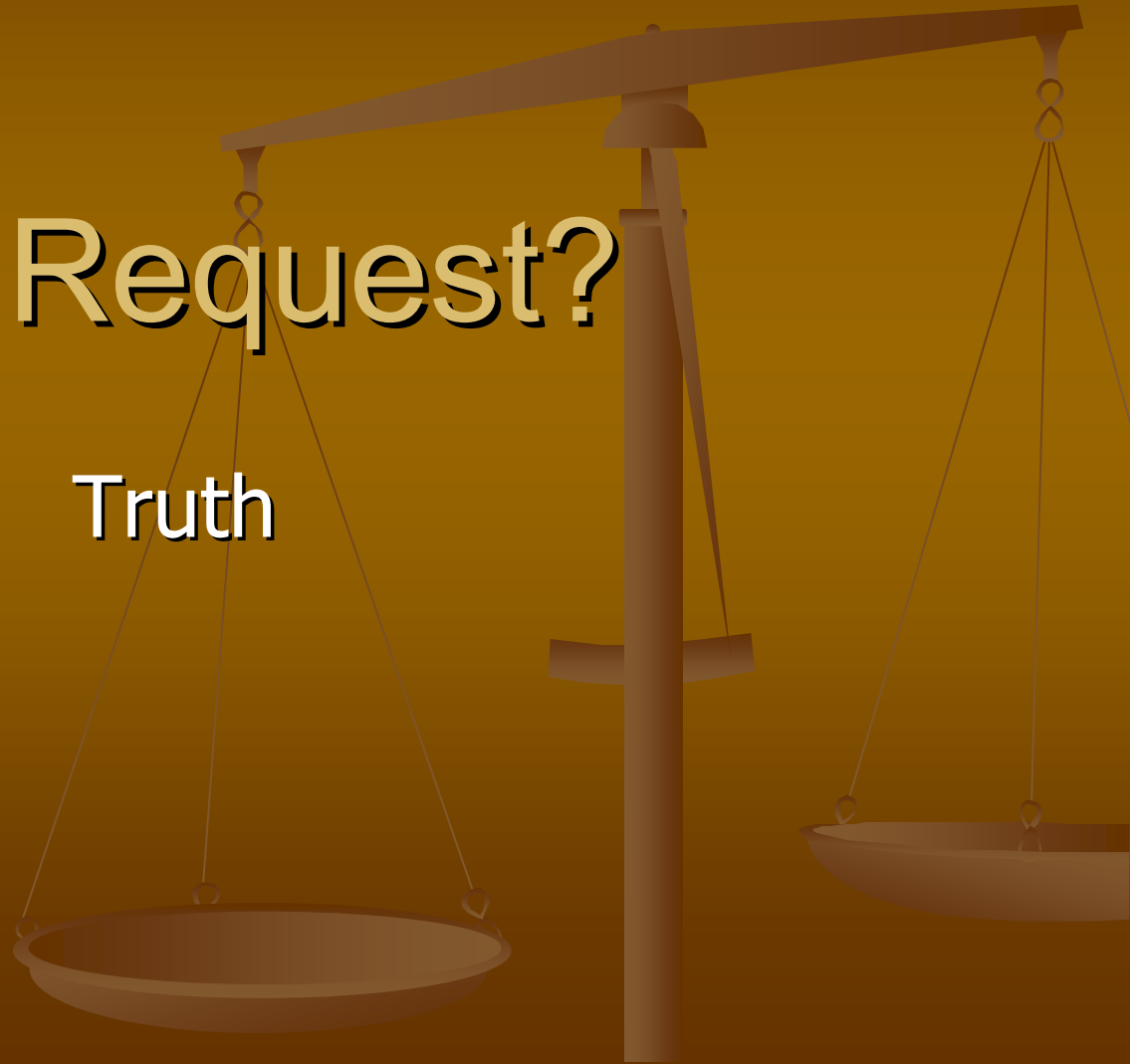


Our Request?

Discernment

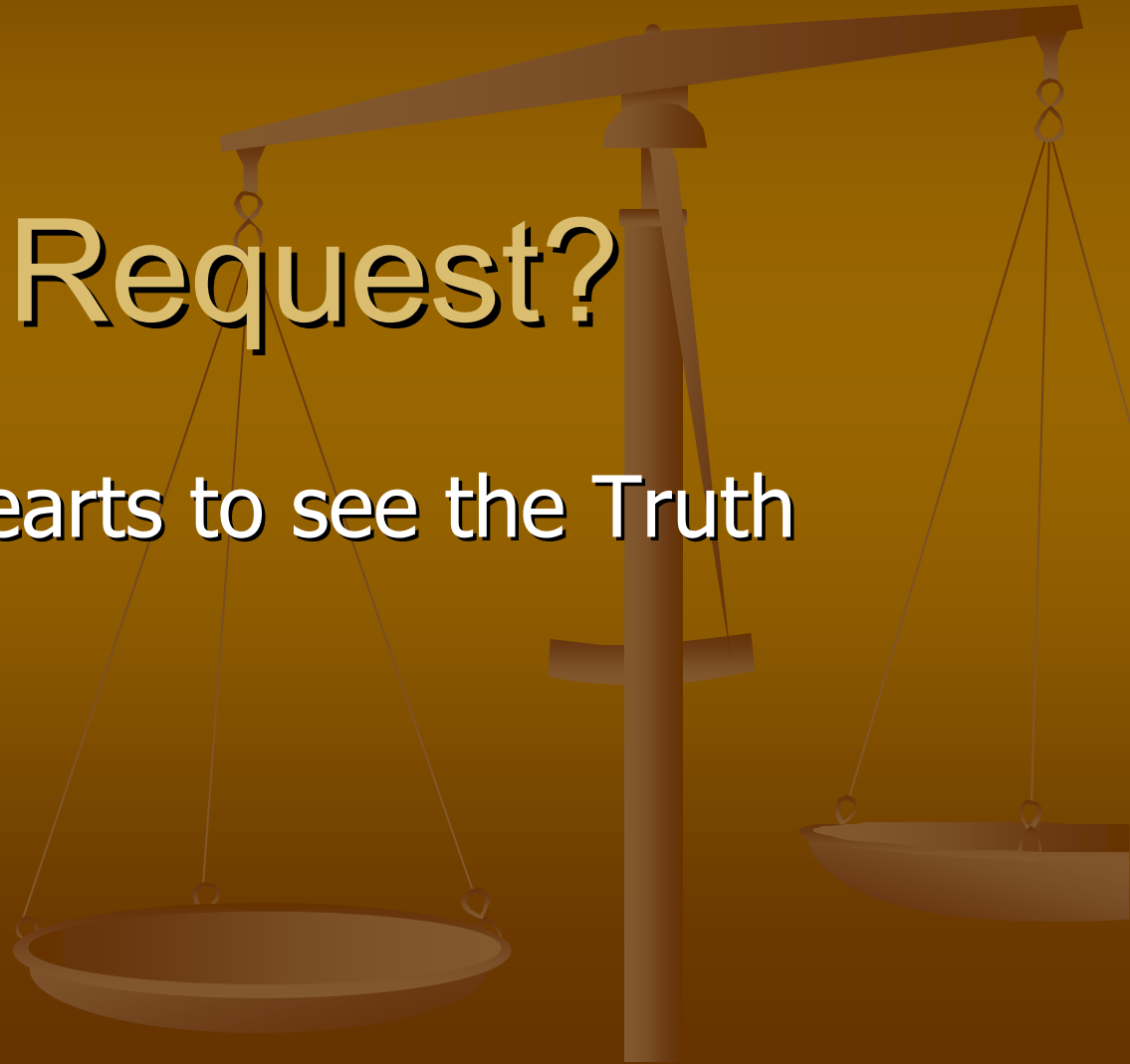
Our Request?

Truth



Our Request?

Open our hearts to see the Truth





God's response?

"I have spoken to you"



God's response?

"I will give it to you"

God's response?

"You will get more than you asked for"



What will you ask for?



What will you do with it?



