

## Discrimination or Discernment?

### **Scripture Reading: Proverbs 2:1-15**

#### *Introduction - The triumph of the new morality (from tolerance to acceptance to intolerance)*

#### I. Discrimination defined – show favor or disfavor unjustly

1. Prejudice – Titus 1:12,13 / Leviticus 19:15 / John 7:24
2. The church has not been immune - (Lev. 18:22, 29 / Pr. 6:16-19 / 11:1 / 17:15 / 28:9 / Deut. 18:9-12 / Jer. 7:9, 10 / Num. 15:32-36 / Lev. 24:10-16)

#### II. The need for discernment:

1. The source of discernment - Proverbs 2:1-6 / 9 (Colossians 1:9 / Psalm 119:66)
2. Human rights or civil rights?
  - a. Human rights - Exodus 20:13-16 (21:14-17 / 22:18-20) Genesis 2 & 9 / Matt 19
  - b. Civil rights - Romans 13:4 (Acts 4 & 5 / Daniel 3 & 6)
  - c. The fundamental problem – Ordination #5
3. The difference between tolerance and acceptance – Matthew 5:44

#### III. Another flawed premise:

1. Original sin - Psalm 51:5
2. Not an excuse - Psalm 51:4
3. A reason for compassion – Romans 3:23 / Hebrews 12:1
4. True happiness - SC #1 / Psalm 1

#### IV. How shall we respond?

1. Live out the gospel – Matthew 5:14
  - a. Racial harmony – Acts 10:34,35 / Galatians 3:28
  - b. Gender equality – Gal. 3:28 & 1 Peter 3:7 (Eph. 5:22,23 w/ 1 Cor. 11:3 / Genesis 2:18 w/ Ps. 54:4 – Matthew 20:28)
  - c. Human rights – 1 Peter 2:17 / Galatians 6:10