



## Daily Verse and Comment

### 1 Corinthians 12:7

(7) But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit *of all*:

*New King James Version*

Asking for the gift of discernment or any other spiritual gift should not be to give us a more special or holier status than our brother or sister in Christ, but instead, to promote the common good for the entire body of Christ. If we think of it this way, it should deter us from corrosive pride, as we realize that each gift has a specific use, and one gift is not any better or inferior to any other.

However, suppose that one gift did contain more value or status than another. Did we do anything to deserve this status or recognition? Of course not! [God](#) Almighty distributes these gifts to each member specifically and individually as He wills, as we see in [1 Corinthians 12:11](#): "But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills."

We must also realize that all these gifts are meant to interact; no one individual, except for [Jesus Christ](#), has all these gifts. Thus, we need other members of the Body of Christ, with their unique gifts, to complement our own God-given gifts. Christ's Body is meant to work together.

[1 Kings 3:9-10](#) records the wisest mortal man who ever lived making a request to God for discernment: "Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?" The speech pleased the LORD, that Solomon had asked this thing."

We learn from [Ezekiel 44:23-24](#) that to discern spirits enables one to make distinctions between holy and profane as well as clean and unclean. The discerner can also make decisions according to biblical judgments, based on knowing the commandments, and if people should violate them, what the appropriate punishment should be. A discerner is one who habitually obeys God's laws and statutes and who faithfully keeps God's Sabbaths (*cf.* [Psalm 111:10](#)).

— David F. Maas

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**[The Gift of Discerning Spirits](#)**

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