

MIND READERS, PSYCHICS, AND FALSE PROPHETS

TEXT: (Proverbs 25:3, NIV)

³ As the heavens are high and the earth is deep, so the hearts of kings are unsearchable.

INTRODUCTION

1. “Do not go to mediums or fortune-tellers for advice, or you will become unclean. I am the LORD your God” (Leviticus 19:31, NCV).
2. “I will also turn against those who commit spiritual prostitution by putting their trust in mediums or in those who consult the spirits of the dead. I will cut them off from the community” (Leviticus 20:6, NLT).
3. “As the heavens are high and the earth is deep, so the hearts of kings are unsearchable” (Proverbs 25:3, NIV).

I. READING THE MIND OF KING DAVID

A. Hunted by Saul

1. “As Samuel turned to leave, Saul caught hold of the hem of his robe, and it tore. Samuel said to him, ‘The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today and has given it to one of your neighbors—to one better than you’” (I Samuel 15:27-28, NIV).
2. “Whatever mission Saul sent him on, David was so successful that Saul gave him a high rank in the army. This pleased all the troops, and Saul’s officers as well” (I Samuel 18:5, NIV).
3. “When the men were returning home after David had killed the Philistine, the women came out from all the towns of Israel to meet King Saul with singing and dancing, with joyful songs and with timbrels and lyres. As they danced, they sang: ‘Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands’” (I Samuel 18:6-7, NIV).
4. “Saul was told that David had gone to Keilah, and he said, ‘God has delivered him into my hands, for David has imprisoned himself by entering a town with gates and bars.’ And Saul called up all his forces for battle, to go down to Keilah to besiege David and his men” (I Samuel 23:7-8, NIV).

B. The Death of Saul

1. “But his armor-bearer was terrified and would not do it; so Saul took his own sword and fell on it” (I Samuel 31:4, NIV).
2. “[Saul] to me, ‘Stand here by me and kill me! I’m in the throes of death, but I’m still alive.’
“So I stood beside him and killed him, because I knew that after he had fallen he could not survive. And I took the crown that was on his head and the band on his arm and have brought them here to my lord” (II Samuel 1:9-10, NIV).
3. “David asked him, ‘Why weren’t you afraid to lift your hand to destroy the LORD’s anointed?’
Then David called one of his men and said, ‘Go, strike him down!’ So he struck him down, and he died” (II Samuel 1:14-15, NIV).

C. The Mind of the King

1. “Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David” (I Samuel 16:13, NIV).

2. "Saul's attendants said to him, 'See, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you. Let our lord command his servants here to search for someone who can play the lyre. He will play when the evil spirit from God comes on you, and you will feel better'" (I Samuel 16:15-16, NIV).
3. "David was conscience-stricken for having cut off a corner of his robe. He said to his men, 'The LORD forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the LORD's anointed, or lay my hand on him; for he is the anointed of the LORD.' With these words David sharply rebuked his men and did not allow them to attack Saul. And Saul left the cave and went his way" (I Samuel 24:5-7, NIV).
4. "As the heavens are high and the earth is deep, so the hearts of kings are unsearchable" (Proverbs 25:3, NIV).

II. UNSPIRITUAL GIFT #10—SUSPICION

1. "For to one is given by the Spirit... discerning of spirits" (I Corinthians 12:8, 10, KJV).

A. The Benefit of the Doubt

1. "Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance" (I Corinthians 13:7, NLT).
2. "As the heavens are high and the earth is deep, so the hearts of kings are unsearchable" (Proverbs 25:3, NIV).
3. "No one can know a person's thoughts except that person's own spirit" (I Corinthians 2:11, NLT).

B. Not Competent to Judge Thoughts

1. "Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God" (Ecclesiastes 5:2, NIV).
2. "Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them" (Psalm 119:165, KJV).

C. Carry Forgiveness, Not Offenses

1. "Do to others as you would have them do to you" (Luke 6:31, NIV).
2. "Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you" (Luke 6:37-38, NIV).
3. "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves" (James 1:22, KJV).
4. "A person's wisdom yields patience; it is to one's glory to overlook an offense" (Proverbs 19:11, NIV).

III. IMAGINATIONS OF THE HUMAN NATURE

1. "What shall we conclude then? Do we (Jews) have any advantage? Not at all! For we have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under the power of sin. As it is written: 'There is no one righteous, not even one'" (Romans 3:9-10, NIV).
2. "Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (II Corinthians 5:17, NIV).
4. "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14, KJV).

A. Clean Your Own Lenses

1. “To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: ‘Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: “‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.”’

“But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, “‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.”’

“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted”(Luke 18:9-14, NIV).

B. Liberation from Self-focus

1. “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus” (Philippians 2:3-5, NIV).

2. “Friends love through all kinds of weather, and families stick together in all kinds of trouble” (Proverbs 17:17, MSG).
3. “If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed” (John 8:36, KJV).

C. Knowing the Mind of the King of Kings

1. “No one can know a person’s thoughts except that person’s own spirit, and no one can know God’s thoughts except God’s own Spirit. And we have received God’s Spirit (not the world’s spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us” (I Corinthians 2:11-12, NLT).

CONCLUSION

1. “So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view” (II Corinthians 5:16, NIV).
2. “Encourage each other and build each other up” (I Thessalonians 5:11, NLT).
3. “So let’s agree to use all our energy in getting along with each other. Help others with encouraging words; don’t drag them down by finding fault” (Romans 14:19-20, MSG).
4. “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God” (Ephesians 4:29-30, NIV).