

DISCOVER, DISCOVERED, DISCOVERETH, DISCOVERING, DISCOVERS, DISCOVERY

In the days immediately after the Flood, the descendants of Noah **discovered** a plain in the land of Shinar. (This is where the tower of Babel was built.)

- **Genesis 11:1-2:** "And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there."

When Jacob told Rebekah he was worried about being cursed if he was caught stealing Esau's blessing, Rebekah said the curse would be upon her, not him. (This was a lie. When Esau **discovered** that his blessing had been stolen, all of the blame fell upon Jacob. Rebekah didn't take responsibility for what she commanded her son to do, but instead blamed Jacob.)

- **Genesis 27:11-13:** "And Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, Behold, Esau my brother is a hairy man, and I am a smooth man: My father peradventure will feel me, and I shall seem to him as a deceiver; and I shall bring a curse upon me, and not a blessing. And his mother said unto him, Upon me be thy curse, my son: only obey my voice, and go fetch me them."
- **Genesis 27:45:** "Until thy brother's anger turn away from thee, and he forget that which thou hast done to him: then I will send, and fetch thee from thence: why should I be deprived also of you both in one day?"

When Reuben **discovered** that Joseph was no longer in the pit, he tore his clothing. (His plan had been to rescue Joseph, but that was now impossible.)

- **Genesis 37:29-30:** "And Reuben returned unto the pit; and, behold, Joseph was not in the pit; and he rent his clothes. And he returned unto his brethren, and said, The child is not; and I, whither shall I go?"

When Tamar gave birth, it was **discovered** that she had twins.

- **Genesis 38:27:** "And it came to pass in the time of her travail, that, behold, twins were in her womb."

When Jacob's sons were taken to Joseph's house after his cup was found in Benjamin's sack, Judah said that God had **discovered** their iniquity. (He was referring to the fact that they had sold Joseph into slavery.)

- **Genesis 44:16:** "And Judah said, What shall we say unto my lord? what shall we speak? or how shall we clear ourselves? God hath found out the iniquity of thy servants: behold, we are my lord's servants, both we, and he also with whom the cup is found."

When the king of Egypt **discovered** that the midwives weren't killing the male babies of the Hebrew women, he asked them why they allowed them to live. (They made up a plausible excuse.)

- **Exodus 1:18-19:** "And the king of Egypt called for the midwives, and said unto them, Why have ye done this thing, and have saved the men children alive? And the midwives said unto Pharaoh, Because the Hebrew women

are not as the Egyptian women; for they are lively, and are delivered ere the midwives come in unto them."

After Nadab and Abihu were killed, Moses **discovered** that the goat which was offered as a sin offering had been burned (instead of eaten). (Aaron did this on purpose because he thought God wouldn't accept it after everything that had happened that day.)

- **Leviticus 10:16, 19:** "And Moses diligently sought the goat of the sin offering, and, behold, it was burnt: and he was angry with Eleazar and Ithamar, the sons of Aaron which were left alive, saying, ... And Aaron said unto Moses, Behold, this day have they offered their sin offering and their burnt offering before the LORD; and such things have befallen me: and if I had eaten the sin offering to day, should it have been accepted in the sight of the LORD?"

Under the Mosaic Law, if the Israelites **discovered** that a city was idolatrous then they were required to utterly destroy it. (There's no evidence they ever obeyed that command. Instead the entire nation turned to idolatry.)

- **Deuteronomy 13:13, 15-16:** "Certain men, the children of Belial, are gone out from among you, and have withdrawn the inhabitants of their city, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which ye have not known; ... Thou shalt surely smite the inhabitants of that city with the edge of the sword, destroying it utterly, and all that is therein, and the cattle thereof, with the edge of the sword. And thou shalt gather all the spoil of it into the midst of the street thereof, and shalt burn with fire the city, and all the spoil thereof every whit, for the LORD thy

God: and it shall be an heap for ever; it shall not be built again."

The Mosaic Law addressed situations where a judge **discovered** that one person in a legal dispute testified falsely against someone else. (False witnesses were to be punished by receiving the sentence they tried to inflict on their victim.)

- **Deuteronomy 19:18-19:** "And the judges shall make diligent inquisition: and, behold, if the witness be a false witness, and hath testified falsely against his brother; Then shall ye do unto him, as he had thought to have done unto his brother: so shalt thou put the evil away from among you."

Under the Mosaic Law, if a murder victim was **discovered** but no one knew who the murderer was, the elders of the nearest city were required to offer a sacrifice to atone for the death.

- **Deuteronomy 21:1, 4:** "If one be found slain in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it, lying in the field, and it be not known who hath slain him: ... And the elders of that city shall bring down the heifer unto a rough valley, which is neither eared nor sown, and shall strike off the heifer's neck there in the valley:"

Under the Mosaic Law, if a man married a woman and then claimed he **discovered** that she wasn't a virgin, then that gave people an occasion to speak against her. (This is because under the Mosaic Law, sexual immorality was punished by death.)

- **Deuteronomy 22:14:** "And give occasions of speech

against her, and bring up an evil name upon her, and say, I took this woman, and when I came to her, I found her not a maid:"

Under the Mosaic Law, if a man claimed that he **discovered** his new bride wasn't a virgin, he didn't have to prove that he was right. Instead the parents of his wife had to provide evidence that she was indeed a virgin when he married her.

- **Deuteronomy 22:15:** "Then shall the father of the damsel, and her mother, take and bring forth the tokens of the damsel's virginity unto the elders of the city in the gate:"

Under the Mosaic Law, if a man falsely claimed that he **discovered** his new bride wasn't a virgin, the elders of the city were required to chastise him. He then had to pay a large fine, and he was forbidden from ever divorcing her.

- **Deuteronomy 22:18-19:** "And the elders of that city shall take that man and chastise him; And they shall amerce him in an hundred shekels of silver, and give them unto the father of the damsel, because he hath brought up an evil name upon a virgin of Israel: and she shall be his wife; he may not put her away all his days."

Under the Mosaic Law, if it was **discovered** that a new bride wasn't a virgin when she was married, she was to be stoned to death by the people of the city.

- **Deuteronomy 22:21:** "Then they shall bring out the damsel to the door of her father's house, and the men of her city shall stone her with stones that she die: because

she hath wrought folly in Israel, to play the whore in her father's house: so shalt thou put evil away from among you."

Under the Mosaic Law, if a man had sex with a woman who was a virgin, and they were **discovered**, then there were consequences. (He was required to pay a large fine to her father and then marry her, and he could never divorce her.)

- **Deuteronomy 22:28-29:** "If a man find a damsel that is a virgin, which is not betrothed, and lay hold on her, and lie with her, and they be found; Then the man that lay with her shall give unto the damsel's father fifty shekels of silver, and she shall be his wife; because he hath humbled her, he may not put her away all his days."

When the group of Gibeonites told Israel that they were from a distant country, the Israelites could have inquired of the Lord to **discover** the truth. However, they didn't (and were therefore deceived).

- **Joshua 9:14:** "And the men took of their victuals, and asked not counsel at the mouth of the LORD."

The deception of the Gibeonites lasted for three days before it was **discovered**.

- **Joshua 9:16:** "And it came to pass at the end of three days after they had made a league with them, that they heard that they were their neighbours, and that they dwelt among them."

When the men of the city **discovered** that Gideon had destroyed his father's altar to Baal, they told his father to bring him so they could kill him. (In other words, during the days of Gideon the Israelites were deeply idolatrous.)

- **Judges 6:30:** "Then the men of the city said unto Joash, Bring out thy son, that he may die: because he hath cast down the altar of Baal, and because he hath cut down the grove that was by it."

The Israelites **discovered** that no one from Jabeshgilead had joined the rest of the congregation at Mizpeh.

- Judges 21:8: "And they said, What one is there of the tribes of Israel that came not up to Mizpeh to the LORD? And, behold, there came none to the camp from Jabeshgilead to the assembly."

When the Israelites numbered themselves, they **discovered** that no one from Jabeshgilead had come to Mizpeh with the rest of the congregation. (They promptly slaughtered them so they could take their virgin women and give them to the Benjamites. In those days the Israelites did what was right in their own sight, instead of what God commanded them to do.)

- **Judges 21:9-10:** "For the people were numbered, and, behold, there were none of the inhabitants of Jabeshgilead there. and the congregation sent thither twelve thousand men of the valiantest, and commanded them, saying, Go and smite the inhabitants of Jabeshgilead with the edge of the sword, with the women and the children."

When the Israelites shouted, the Philistines **discovered** that the Ark of the Covenant had come into the camp. (In the end this went badly for the Israelites. Not only did they lose the battle, but the Philistines captured the Ark of the Covenant.)

- **1 Samuel 4:6:** "And when the Philistines heard the noise of the shout, they said, What meaneth the noise of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews? And they understood that the ark of the LORD was come into the camp."

When Saul had his people count themselves, they **discovered** that Jonathan and his armor bearer were missing. (This revealed that they were the ones who went to fight the Philistines.)

- **1 Samuel 14:17:** "Then said Saul unto the people that were with him, Number now, and see who is gone from us. And when they had numbered, behold, Jonathan and his armourbearer were not there."

When David asked Jonathan what he would do if he **discovered** that Saul really did want to kill him, Jonathan told him to go out into the field with him. (That's when Jonathan explained that he would shoot arrows to convey the message.)

- **1 Samuel 20:11:** "And Jonathan said unto David, Come, and let us go out into the field. And they went out both of them into the field."

When David **discovered** that Ziba had lied to him about Mephibosheth, he refused to do anything about it. Instead he allowed Ziba to keep all of Mephibosheth's property, which he

had obtained through his false accusation against him. (This was a violation of the Mosaic Law.)

- **2 Samuel 19:29:** "And the king said unto him, Why speakest thou any more of thy matters? I have said, Thou and Ziba divide the land."

At God's rebuke, the **foundations** of the world were discovered.

- **2 Samuel 22:16:** "And the channels of the sea appeared, the foundations of the world were discovered, at the rebuking of the LORD, at the blast of the breath of his nostrils."

When the king of Israel kept **discovering** the secret camps of the Syrians, the king of Syria thought that one of his servants was a traitor and was telling the Israelites where his camps were located. (However, the truth is that the prophet Elisha was revealing the secret.)

- **2 Kings 6:11-12:** "Therefore the heart of the king of Syria was sore troubled for this thing; and he called his servants, and said unto them, Will ye not shew me which of us is for the king of Israel? And one of his servants said, None, my lord, O king: but Elisha, the prophet that is in Israel, telleth the king of Israel the words that thou speakest in thy bedchamber."

When the king of Assyria **discovered** that Hoshea (the king of Israel) had conspired against him, he put Hoshea in prison.

- **2 Kings 17:4:** "And the king of Assyria found conspiracy in Hoshea: for he had sent messengers to So king of Egypt,

and brought no present to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year: therefore the king of Assyria shut him up, and bound him in prison."

Solomon made so many brass vessels for the temple that their weight couldn't be **discovered**.

- **2 Chronicles 4:18:** "Thus Solomon made all these vessels in great abundance: for the weight of the brass could not be found out."

King Artaxerxes **discovered** that Jerusalem had a history of rebelling against kings. (This gave the enemies of the Jews what they needed to stop the temple from being rebuilt.)

- **Ezra 4:19:** "And I commanded, and search hath been made, and it is found that this city of old time hath made insurrection against kings, and that rebellion and sedition have been made therein."

King Artaxerxes **discovered** that in former times the kings of Jerusalem received tribute. (This gave the enemies of the Jews what they needed to stop the temple from being rebuilt.)

- **Ezra 4:20:** "There have been mighty kings also over Jerusalem, which have ruled over all countries beyond the river; and toll, tribute, and custom, was paid unto them."

The enemies of the Jews learned that the Jews (who were rebuilding the wall around Jerusalem) had **discovered** their plans. They had armed themselves and were ready for their

attack.

- **Nehemiah 4:15:** "And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that it was known unto us, and God had brought their counsel to nought, that we returned all of us to the wall, every one unto his work."

When Nehemiah returned to Jerusalem, he **discovered** that Eliashib had taken the room in the temple that was supposed to store the tithes for the priests and had given it to Tobiah (an enemy of God and the Jews).

- **Nehemiah 13:4-5, 7:** "And before this, Eliashib the priest, having the oversight of the chamber of the house of our God, was allied unto Tobiah: And he had prepared for him a great chamber, where aforetime they laid the meat offerings, the frankincense, and the vessels, and the tithes of the corn, the new wine, and the oil, which was commanded to be given to the Levites, and the singers, and the porters; and the offerings of the priests. ... And I came to Jerusalem, and understood of the evil that Eliashib did for Tobiah, in preparing him a chamber in the courts of the house of God."

King Ahasuerus **discovered** that the news of the assassination plot against him (which Mordecai had revealed) was true.

- **Esther 2:21, 23:** "In those days, while Mordecai sat in the king's gate, two of the king's chamberlains, Bigthan and Teresh, of those which kept the door, were wroth, and sought to lay hands on the king Ahasuerus. ... And when inquisition was made of the matter, it was found out; therefore they were both hanged on a tree: and it was written in the book of the chronicles before the king."

Bildad told Job that if he looked into the teachings of those who lived long ago, he would **discover** that they also taught that righteous people never suffered. (This means those people from long ago were fools.)

- **Job 8:8, 10:** "For enquire, I pray thee, of the former age, and prepare thyself to the search of their fathers: ... Shall not they teach thee, and tell thee, and utter words out of their heart?"

Job told Bildad that God does more great things than people know. The total number of wonders that He has done is beyond **discovery**.

- **Job 9:10:** "Which doeth great things past finding out; yea, and wonders without number."

Job said that God **discovers** deep things out of darkness.

- **Job 12:22:** "He discovereth deep things out of darkness, and bringeth out to light the shadow of death."

Job said that to the wicked, being **discovered** is like the shadow of death. (Evildoers don't want their wicked deeds to be revealed.)

- **Job 24:17:** "For the morning is to them even as the shadow of death: if one know them, they are in the terrors of the shadow of death."

Job said there's a path that no bird knows, and the eye of the

vulture has never seen. (This seems to be referring to the hidden wisdom of God, which can't be **discovered** unless God chooses to reveal it.)

- **Job 28:7-8:** "There is a path which no fowl knoweth, and which the vulture's eye hath not seen: The lion's whelps have not trodden it, nor the fierce lion passed by it."

Job said that the things which God has hidden from us can't be found and are impossible to **discover** (unless God chooses to reveal them).

- **Job 28:12:** "But where shall wisdom be found? and where is the place of understanding?"

Elihu wanted Job and his three friends to find the truth, and to **discover** good words of wisdom regarding Job's situation.

- **Job 34:4:** "Let us choose to us judgment: let us know among ourselves what is good."

Under the Mosaic Law, if a thief was **discovered** then he had to repay what he stole, even if that meant giving up everything he owned.

- **Proverbs 6:31:** "But if he be found, he shall restore sevenfold; he shall give all the substance of his house."

Those who are wise delight in **discovering** wisdom. Those who are fools delight in discovering themselves.

- **Proverbs 18:1-2:** "Through desire a man, having separated himself, seeketh and intermeddleth with all

wisdom. A fool hath no delight in understanding, but that his heart may discover itself."

It's good to ask people questions when they make claims. There's great wisdom in investigating a matter to **discover** the truth.

- **Proverbs 18:17:** "He that is first in his own cause seemeth just; but his neighbour cometh and searcheth him."

There are times when God deliberately conceals things. This isn't so that we'll never learn the truth, but so that we must work to **discover** it.

- **Proverbs 25:2:** "It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter."

Those who have understanding can search out the rich. They can **discover** things that wealthy people have missed due to their own conceit.

- **Proverbs 28:11:** "The rich man is wise in his own conceit; but the poor that hath understanding searcheth him out."

God works to hide the future from us and make it impossible to **discover** (unless He chooses to reveal it to us).

- **Ecclesiastes 7:14:** "In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider: God also hath set the one over against the other, to the end that man should find nothing after him."

A fool can be **discovered** by the things that he does (his actions and his words).

- **Ecclesiastes 10:3:** "Yea also, when he that is a fool walketh by the way, his wisdom faileth him, and he saith to every one that he is a fool."

God pointed out that when thieves are **discovered**, they're ashamed. (In other words, stealing is shameful.)

- **Jeremiah 2:26:** "As the thief is ashamed when he is found, so is the house of Israel ashamed; they, their kings, their princes, and their priests, and their prophets."

God said that the iniquity of the Jews had been **discovered**. (This seems to be a reference to their idolatry.)

- **Jeremiah 13:22:** "And if thou say in thine heart, Wherefore come these things upon me? For the greatness of thine iniquity are thy skirts discovered, and thy heels made bare."

There are times when we must obey God in order to **discover** what comes next. (When God sent Jeremiah to the potter's house, He didn't tell him what to do next until after he arrived.)

- **Jeremiah 18:1-2:** "The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words."

God said that the Jews were proud before their wickedness was **discovered**.

- **Ezekiel 16:56-57:** "For thy sister Sodom was not mentioned by thy mouth in the day of thy pride, Before thy wickedness was discovered, as at the time of thy reproach of the daughters of Syria, and all that are round about her, the daughters of the Philistines, which despise thee round about."

God said that the Jews made the king of Babylon **discover** their transgressions. (In other words, the Jews broke the oath they swore that they would serve him.)

- **Ezekiel 21:24:** "Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because ye have made your iniquity to be remembered, in that your transgressions are discovered, so that in all your doings your sins do appear; because, I say, that ye are come to remembrance, ye shall be taken with the hand."

The wise men of Babylon didn't even try to find a way to **discover** what King Nebuchadnezzar had dreamed. Instead they kept asking him to reveal his dream (which he refused to do).

- **Daniel 2:7:** "They answered again and said, Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will shew the interpretation of it."

The correct interpretation of Biblical prophecy comes from God. We can't **discover** it on our own.

- **Zechariah 1:9:** "Then said I, O my lord, what are these? And the angel that talked with me said unto me, I will shew thee what these be."

In the day of judgment, many people who called Jesus "Lord" will be surprised to **discover** that they weren't saved at all. (Those who never repent of their sins and put their faith in Christ alone for salvation aren't saved, even if they call Jesus their Lord.)

- **Matthew 7:22-23:** "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

The Jews said they had never seen someone cast a demon out of a person who couldn't speak. (This is because the Jews cast out demons by **discovering** the demon's name and then commanding him to leave. If the possessed person couldn't speak then they couldn't learn the demon's name, which made exorcism impossible.)

- **Matthew 9:33:** "And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: and the multitudes marvelled, saying, It was never so seen in Israel."

When Pilate **discovered** that Jesus was a Galilaean, he sent Him to Herod to be judged.

- **Luke 23:7:** "And as soon as he knew that he belonged unto Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who himself also was at Jerusalem at that time."

When the chief captain brought Paul before the Jewish council, he **discovered** that Paul hadn't done anything worthy

of being imprisoned.

- **Acts 23:29:** "Whom I perceived to be accused of questions of their law, but to have nothing laid to his charge worthy of death or of bonds."

Felix **discovered** that Paul was from the province of Cilicia.

- **Acts 23:34:** "And when the governor had read the letter, he asked of what province he was. And when he understood that he was of Cilicia;"

It's impossible for us to discover God's ways. If He doesn't reveal them to us then we would never be able to find them out, because He's far wiser and more knowledgeable than we are.

- **Romans 11:33:** "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!"

No one understood or **discovered** the gospel before God revealed it to us.

- **1 Corinthians 2:9-10:** "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God."

It's a waste of time to look at yourself in a mirror and then do nothing about your appearance. Likewise, it's foolish to

discover the truth in the Word of God and then do nothing to obey it.

- **James 1:23-24:** "For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was."

The church of Ephesus tested people who claimed to be apostles and **discovered** that they were false teachers. (Jesus praised them for this.)

- **Revelation 2:2:** "I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:"