



**DISCERNING** WHAT WE SEE

# JOSHUA 22:9-34

<sup>9</sup> So the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh left the Israelites at Shiloh in Canaan to return to Gilead, their own land, which they had acquired in accordance with the command of the LORD through Moses.

<sup>10</sup> When they came to Geliloth near the Jordan in the land of Canaan, the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh built an imposing altar there by the Jordan.



# JOSHUA 22:9-34

<sup>11</sup> And when the Israelites heard that they had built the altar on the border of Canaan at Geliloth near the Jordan on the Israelite side,

<sup>12</sup> the whole assembly of Israel gathered at Shiloh to go to war against them.

<sup>13</sup> So the Israelites sent Phinehas son of Eleazar, the priest, to the land of Gilead--to Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh.



# JOSHUA 22:9-34

<sup>14</sup> With him they sent ten of the chief men, one from each of the tribes of Israel, each the head of a family division among the Israelite clans.

<sup>15</sup> When they went to Gilead--to Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh--they said to them:



# JOSHUA 22:9-34

<sup>16</sup> "The whole assembly of the LORD says: 'How could you break faith with the God of Israel like this? How could you turn away from the LORD and build yourselves an altar in rebellion against him now?'

<sup>17</sup> Was not the sin of Peor enough for us? Up to this very day we have not cleansed ourselves from that sin, even though a plague fell on the community of the LORD!



# JOSHUA 22:9-34

<sup>18</sup> And are you now turning away from the LORD? " If you rebel against the LORD today, tomorrow he will be angry with the whole community of Israel.

<sup>19</sup> If the land you possess is defiled, come over to the LORD's land, where the LORD's tabernacle stands, and share the land with us. But do not rebel against the LORD or against us by building an altar for yourselves, other than the altar of the LORD our God.



# JOSHUA 22:9-34

<sup>20</sup> When Achan son of Zerah was unfaithful in regard to the devoted things, did not wrath come on the whole community of Israel? He was not the only one who died for his sin.' "

<sup>21</sup> Then Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh replied to the heads of the clans of Israel:



# JOSHUA 22:9-34

<sup>22</sup> "The Mighty One, God, the LORD! The Mighty One, God, the LORD! He knows! And let Israel know! If this has been in rebellion or disobedience to the LORD, do not spare us this day.

<sup>23</sup> If we have built our own altar to turn away from the LORD and to offer burnt offerings and grain offerings, or to sacrifice fellowship offerings on it, may the LORD himself call us to account.



# JOSHUA 22:9-34

<sup>24</sup> "No! We did it for fear that some day your descendants might say to ours, 'What do you have to do with the LORD, the God of Israel?

<sup>25</sup> The LORD has made the Jordan a boundary between us and you--you Reubenites and Gadites! You have no share in the LORD.' So your descendants might cause ours to stop fearing the LORD.



# JOSHUA 22:9-34

<sup>26</sup> "That is why we said, 'Let us get ready and build an altar--but not for burnt offerings or sacrifices.'

<sup>27</sup> On the contrary, it is to be a witness between us and you and the generations that follow, that we will worship the LORD at his sanctuary with our burnt offerings, sacrifices and fellowship offerings. Then in the future your descendants will not be able to say to ours, 'You have no share in the LORD.'



# JOSHUA 22:9-34

<sup>28</sup> "And we said, 'If they ever say this to us, or to our descendants, we will answer: Look at the replica of the LORD's altar, which our ancestors built, not for burnt offerings and sacrifices, but as a witness between us and you.'

<sup>29</sup> "Far be it from us to rebel against the LORD and turn away from him today by building an altar for burnt offerings, grain offerings and sacrifices, other than the altar of the LORD our God that stands before his tabernacle."



# JOSHUA 22:9-34

<sup>30</sup> When Phinehas the priest and the leaders of the community--the heads of the clans of the Israelites--heard what Reuben, Gad and Manasseh had to say, they were pleased.

<sup>31</sup> And Phinehas son of Eleazar, the priest, said to Reuben, Gad and Manasseh, "Today we know that the LORD is with us, because you have not been unfaithful to the LORD in this matter. Now you have rescued the Israelites from the LORD's hand."



# JOSHUA 22:9-34

<sup>32</sup> Then Phinehas son of Eleazar, the priest, and the leaders returned to Canaan from their meeting with the Reubenites and Gadites in Gilead and reported to the Israelites.

<sup>33</sup> They were glad to hear the report and praised God. And they talked no more about going to war against them to devastate the country where the Reubenites and the Gadites lived.



# JOSHUA 22:9-34

<sup>34</sup> And the Reubenites and the Gadites gave the altar this name: A Witness Between Us-- that the LORD is God.



WE MUST USE  
**DISCERNMENT**  
IN WHAT WE SEE





USE  
**DISCERNMENT**

IN HOW WE SEE  
OTHER PEOPLE



USE  
**DISCERNMENT**  
IN SITUATIONS WE SEE



WE  
**DISCERN**  
BY WAITING



WE  
**DISCERN**  
FROM GATHERING FACTS



THROUGH  
**DISCERNMENT**  
WE AVOID CATASTROPHE

DO YOU USE  
**DISCERNMENT**  
IN WHAT YOU SEE?



Have A Great Week

GOOD  
BLESS  
YOU

