

## Divine Guidance

### 1) God speaks – directly or indirectly

#### i) Direct from God

*LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. (Exodus 33:11)*

ii) Jesus – *He opened His mouth and began to teach them. (Matthew 5:2)*

iii) Holy Spirit - *While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Appoint Barnabas and Saul for the special work...” (Acts 13:2)*

iv) Angels– *The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, (Luke 1:30)*

#### v) Prophets, Priests & Ministers:

*I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. I will put My words in his mouth, and he will tell them everything I command him. (Deut.18:18)*

*For the lips of a priest ought to preserve knowledge, because he is the messenger of the LORD (Malachi 2:7)*

*The king said to the man of God, “Please ask the LORD your God...” (1 Kings 13:6)*

vi) Dreams - *‘In the last days,’ God says, ‘I will pour out my Spirit... and your old men will dream dreams. (Acts 2:17)*

### 2) Through some objects (hardware)

i) Urim and Thummim - *Insert the Urim and Thummim into the sacred chest piece so they will be carried over Aaron’s heart when he goes into the LORD’s presence. (Exodus 28:30)*

Urim is an abbreviation for Urim and Thummim and denotes the means with which the high priest was entrusted of ascertaining the divine will and counsel in all the important business of the congregation. As written, "After his mouth"

It does not appear that Moses ever sought the judgment of Urim, for he possessed more direct means of ascertaining the will of God; nor does it seem ever to have been resorted to after the time of David, for the "more sure word of prophecy" superseded it. Its real use, therefore, belonged to the dark ages of Israel, after the light of Moses had set, and before the light of the prophets had arisen.

#### ii) Ephod - (a sacred vest)

The ephod contained the Urim and Thummim, which were used by the high priest to determine God's will.

*Abiathar son of Ahimelek had brought the ephod down with him when he fled to David at Keilah. (1 Samuel 23:6)*

*David inquired of the Lord, “Shall I pursue after this band? Shall I overtake them?” He answered him, “Pursue, for you shall surely overtake and shall surely rescue.” (1 Samuel 30:8)*

Saul had set up another high-priest, and made an ephod in imitation of the sacred one, not considering the peculiar sanctity of that which God had appointed, and by which alone he had promised to manifest himself.

*Saul asked God, “Shall I go down and pursue the Philistines? Will you give them into Israel’s hand?” But God did not answer him that day. (1 Samuel 14:37)*

iii) Joseph’s silver cup – *My personal silver cup; drinks and also uses for divination. (Genesis 44:2,5)*

- iv) Gideon's wool fleece: To "check" God's will- *I will place a wool fleece on the threshing floor. If there is dew only on the fleece and all the ground is dry, then I will know that you will save Israel by my hand, as you said.* (Judges 6:37)
- v) Wooden idols [wrong way] - *My people consult a wooden idol, and a diviner's rod speaks to them. A spirit of prostitution leads them astray; they are unfaithful to their God.* (Hosea 4:12)

### 3) Through Literature

- i) Bible - *All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives.* (2 Timothy 3:16)
- ii) Manuscripts - *I Daniel understood by books the number of the years.* (Daniel 9:2)
- iii) Books, parchments - *When you come, bring...my scrolls (books), especially the parchments.* (2 Timothy 4:13)

Moses learned all branches of Egyptian literature which at that time celebrated in the entire world- *Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians* (Acts 7:22)

### 4) Through machines/software

- i) GPS-(Global Positioning System) - a satellite-based navigation system.
- ii) Google search - A search engine operated by Google that allows users to find information on the web by entering keywords and also some other search engines worked in that way.
- iii) AI - Artificial intelligence. It is the capability of computational systems to perform tasks typically associated with human intelligence using along with our brain is good.- *The time of the end, knowledge shall increase.* (Daniel 12:4)
- In OT physical sacrifices (Lev. 1-27) and in NT spiritual sacrifices (Heb.13:15-16).  
GOD IS STILL USING SOME OF THESE WAYS.

For us some of these may not be right to work if using without God given sense!

### Misuse

#### i) Brazen serpent

Moses made a brazen serpent to save lives later became idol for them  
Numbers 21:8 (gave life) → 2 Kings 18:4 (became idol)

#### ii) Saul asked from medium instead from God

*Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by the prophets; Saul then said to his attendants, "Find me a woman who is a medium, so I may go and inquire of her."* (1 Samuel 28:6-7)

#### iii) Literature –Wrong/bad writings- *Many of those having practiced the magic arts, having brought the books, burned them before all.* (Acts 19:19)

iv) Search engine/AI- If completely depending upon them without using God given sense is not good and may astray our living to evil life.

#### v) Deceptive teaching-(Jesus said) *'Beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees.'* Then they understood that he wasn't speaking about yeast in bread, but about the deceptive teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees. (Matthew 16:11-12)

#### vi) Ephod became idol- *Gideon made an ephod (a sacred vest) from captured gold and placed it in his hometown, but it became a snare for both him and his family because all of Israel began to worship it instead of God.* (Judges 8:27)

Prayer: Lord Jesus I accept you as my Lord and Saviour so that I will be able to discern rightly new technology which your people have created. **AMEN**