

An Exercise To Discern Both Good and Evil (Hebrews 5:14)

He's Such A Nice Person

Scenario:

A man begins to assemble regularly with the congregation. Over some time, this man becomes well-liked among the saints. He is very hospitable. He has accounted to the saints that he obeyed the Gospel many years ago. He seems to agree with everything that is being taught. When spiritual discussions occur, he comes down on the right side of things. Though he assembles with the congregation, he has not wanted to join the fellowship of the saints. He wants to continue to just visit with us. As time passes, a few of the brethren urge him to become a member of the congregation. He states that he likes to just visit with congregations and does not want to become too involved. The brethren attempt to persuade him otherwise, but to no avail. Among later questions, those whom have attempted to have him join the local fellowship report to the congregation that this man oddly wants to keep his distance.

Statement That Arises From Our Scenario:

One of the brethren in this public statement says: "We need to be cautious with this man. He says he wants to keep his distance, but he has become very influential among some of our members. We need to be aware that he could be a wolf among us."

A Later Statement Is Made:

One of the members of the congregation says: "This brother in Christ is too nice to be a threat to our congregation. He just doesn't want to be a member here, but he is still our brother. We should not make false charges. He is such a nice person. It is wrong for us to say otherwise. He has done nothing to deserve that conclusion."

For Discussion: What do you see in those statements?