

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

### **The Adulterous Preacher**

#### **Scenario:**

It is the first day of the week. Everything seems normal. The preacher that works with the congregation comes to the front of the room. He asks everyone for their attention. He says that he has an announcement to make. He has the attention of everyone. His wife goes out the back door. Things all of a sudden do not seem so normal. He begins to cry. He then confesses that he has committed adultery. He asks the congregation to forgive him of this trespass. He says it was something he did once and that it was recent. Several of the women immediately seek out his wife. One of the men asks him to leave while the brethren discuss this situation. The preacher then exits the room.

#### **Statement That Arises From Our Scenario:**

One of the men that is known to be knowledgeable and strong in the faith says this: "A preacher is held to a higher standard according to James 3:1. This man needs to go. He cannot work with us any more. I cannot be in the same room as him."

#### **A Later Statement Is Made:**

Another brother says: "I don't agree. He has sinned and needs to repent of that. He needs to bring forth fruit meet for repentance. However, he does not need to leave the congregation. We would not ask anyone else in his situation to leave. We also need to be mindful of his wife. They both need us to be brethren now and help them."

**For Discussion:** What do you see in those statements?