

1JOHN 4:1-6 HOW TO TEST THE SPIRITS

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!!! 2022 HERE WE GO.....ALTHOUGH I DO NOT KNOW WHAT THIS YEAR HOLDS FOR US, I AM CONFIDENT ON THE SOVERIEGNTY AND POWER OF OUR LORD. HE WILL BUILD, BLESS, AND DELIVER....GIVE AND TAKE AWAY, EXACTLY THE WAY HE WANTS TO.

THAT BEING SAID, LETS START THE YEAR OUT WITH A FASTBALL!!!

WE WILL BE IN 1JOHN 4:1-6 THIS MORNING. AND I'M VERY EXCITED BECAUSE JOHN IS MY FAVORITE DISCIPLE AND THIS IS HIS EPISTLE.

WRITTEN IN 85-90 AD, JOHN WRITES THE CHURCH IN EPHESUS AND THE CHURCHES IN THE SURROUNDING AREA WITH KIND OF A "HOW TO LIVE A CRISTIAN LIFE" LETTER. THIS LETTER IS FILLED WITH ENCOURAGEMENT, TEACHINGS, AND WARNINGS. TODAY I WOULD LIKE TO FOCUS ON ONE OF THE WARNINGS JOHN GIVES THE CHURCH.

1 John 4:1

English Standard Version

Test the Spirits

4 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.

FIRST THING WE NEED TO SEE IS THAT JOHN ADDRESSES THAT THERE IS A SPIRIT ATTACHED TO AND RESPONSIBLE

FOR WHATEVER IS BEING SAID...PERIOD....SPIRITUAL OR RELIGIOUS INFORMATION IS NEVER NEUTRAL IT IS EITHER FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT(SPIRIT OF TRUTH) OR FROM SATAN (DECIEVER LIAR)

BELOVED, THAT'S US.....DO NOT BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU HEAR

WE ARE COMMANDED BY JOHN TO DISCERN SPIRITS

1 John 4:1

English Standard Version

Test the Spirits

4 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, **but test the spirits** to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.

DO NOT BELIEVE SOMEONE JUST BECAUSE THEY HAVE A COUPLE OF INITIALS BEFORE THEIR NAME. DO NOT BELIEVE SOMEONE JUST BECAUSE THEY CALL THEMSELVES AN AUTHORITY OF ANY KIND ESPECIALLY SCRIPTURE, DOCTRINE AND THE THINGS OF GOD.

WHEN IT COMES TO SPIRITUAL THINGS OR ANYTHING THAT CAN CHANGE, INFLUENCE, OR EFFECT YOUR LIFE.....YOU MUST TEST THE SPIRITS

WHY? MANY... NOT A FEW FALSE PROPHETS HAVE GONE OUT INTO THE WORLD....AND THEY LIE...**WE ARE TO GUARD WHAT WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN**

PAUL REMINDS TIMOTHY IN 2 DIFFERENT LETTERS THAT WERE WRITTEN LATER IN THE MID 60'S

1 Timothy 6:20-21

English Standard Version

²⁰ O Timothy, guard the deposit entrusted to you. Avoid the irreverent babble and contradictions of what is falsely called “knowledge,” ²¹ for by professing it some have swerved from the faith.

GUARD THE TREASURE OF DIVINE REVELATION/TRUTH

2 Timothy 1:13-14

English Standard Version

¹³ Follow the pattern of the sound^[a] words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

YOU HAVE TO KNOW THE TRUTH TO GUARD THE TRUTH
JESUS SAID “IF YOU ABIDE IN MY WORD, YOU ARE TRULY
MY DISCIPLES, AND YOU WILL KNOW THE TRUTH AND THE
TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE”
WE ARE TO KNOW THE TRUTH OF GOD’S WORD AND
DISCERN IT FROM THE LIE

SO HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO TEST THESE SPIRITS?

1 John 4:2

English Standard Version

² By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,

CHRISTOLOGY

1. CONFESION OF THE DIVINE LORD

HAS COME IN THE FLESH IS KEY HERE....THE GNOSTICS AND
MYSTICS OF THAT DAY SAID “EVERYTHING SPIRITUAL IS

GOOD AND FROM GOD...EVERYTHING NATURAL IS BAD
THEREFORE SINFUL”

THEY BELIEVED THAT CHRIST WAS A CONCIIOUSNESS

ONE THING THE DEMONIC WILL ALWAYS DENY DIETY OF
JESUS CHRIST

GOD IN HUMAN FLESH

WHEN SOMEONE CONFESSES THAT JESUS CHRIST IS GOD IN
HUMAN FORM, THAT IS DIVINE REVELATION THAT CAN
ONLY COME FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT

JESUS CHRIST IS LORD

EVERY SPIRIT THAT AGREES WITH THIS IS FROM GOD

1 John 1:1-3

English Standard Version

The Word of Life

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— **2** the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— **3** that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

JESUS IS THE ETERNAL LIFE THAT BECAME FLESH
HE IS ONE WITH THE FATHER AND THE HOLY SPIRIT
MANIFESTED TO US - HE IS THE PERFECT SON IN THE
TRINITY, THE SUBSTITUTE FOR MAN’S INIQUITY/SIN, AND
THE FIRST INTO THE RESSURECTED LIFE WITH THE FATHER

1 John 4:2-3

English Standard Version

² By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³ and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.

ANTI-CHRIST.....ANYTHING OR ANYONE THAT ALTERS OR DENIES THE DIETY AND HUMANITY OF JESUS CHRIST. HIS VIRGIN BIRTH, HIS SINLESS LIFE, FULLY GOD, FULLY MAN, DIED WILLINGLY TO FULLFILL THE SCRIPTURES AND THE LAW, RESSURECTED ON THE 3RD DAY PUTTING TO SHAME AND DEFEAT DEATH ITSLEF AND BREAKING ALL STRONGHOLDS OF SIN, ASCENDED TO THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER WHERE HE SITS AS OUR MEDIATOR, PRAYING FOR HIS PEOPLE

MUSLIM, JEHOVAS WITNESS, BUDAH, HINDU, ROMAN CATHOLICISM, CHRISTIAN SCIENCE, EVEN SOME "CHRISTIAN" PREACHERS ARE FALSE PROPHETS, FALSE RELIGIONS..DOCTRINES OF DEMONS AND SEDUCING SPIRITS

1 John 2:22-23

English Standard Version

²² Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son. ²³ No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also.

YOU REJECT JESUS, YOU REJECT GOD. YOU DON'T KNOW JESUS, YOU DON'T KNOW GOD AT ALL
JESUS SAID "I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH ME"

2. POSSESSION OF THE DIVINE LIFE / REGENERATION

2nd TEST TO SEE BETWEEN THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH AND THE SPIRIT OF ERROR IS.....DOES THEIR WALK MATCH THEIR TALK

Matthew 7:15-20

English Standard Version

¹⁵ “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

INCARNATION IS GOD PARTAKER IN HUMAN NATURE
REGENERATION IS MAN PARTAKER IN THE DIVINE NATURE

HERE JOHN CONFIRMS THE CALL TO DISCERNMENT AND
OUR SECURITY IN THE LORD

1 John 4:4-5

English Standard Version

⁴ Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵ They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them.

LIKE PRODUCES LIKE....”MY SHEEP HEAR MY VOICE”

WE MUST BEWARE THE PROPHET BOX IN OUR LIVING ROOMS AND IN OUR POCKETS

BECAUSE YOU HAVE THE HOLY SPIRIT, YOU CAN ABIDE IN HIS WORD, YOU CAN DISCERN THE TRUTH FROM A LIE, THEREFORE OVERCOMING THE ENEMY AND HIS FALSE REALITIES

1 John 2:24-25

English Standard Version

²⁴ Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father. ²⁵ And this is the promise that he made to us^[a]— eternal life.

WE MAY BE ABLE TO BE LED ASTRAY ON SOME THINGS...NOT SPIRITUAL THINGS

1 THEIR VIEW OF CHRIST / CONFESSION OF THE DIVINE LORD
2 THEIR LIFE / POSSESSION OF THE DIVINE LIFE/REGENERATION

3. PROFESSION OF THE DIVINE LAW

DO THEY SUBMIT TO THE WORD OF GOD

1 John 4:5-6

English Standard Version

⁵ They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶ We are from God. **Whoever knows God listens to us;** whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

JOHN IS GIVING US CLEAR DIRECTION.....FALSE TEACHERS
ARE POPULAR

THE WORLD DOES NOT WANT TO BE CONFRONTED ON SIN
TELL THEM YOU'LL MAKE EM' RICH AND HEALTHY AND
THEY WILL SLURP IT UP AND FUND THE WHOLE THING

SINNERS HAVE AN AFFECTION FOR LIES /FLESH PRODUCES
FLESH

WE ARE FROM GOD...THEY ARE NOT....YOU WILL KNOW
THEM BY THEIR FRUIT

AS WE ENTER 2022, LETS GO INTO IT WITH OUR EYES ON
JESUS
LETS ABIDE IN HIS WORD AND IN HIS PRESENCE, THEN WE
WILL BE ABLE TO DISCERN THE TRUTH FROM A LIE

ALTER