



JANUARY 7, 2018

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All That Glitters Isn't Gold

1 John 4:1-6

I. Exercise The Discernment of The Holy Spirit (v. 1)

A. The _____ of the Holy Spirit (1 Jn. 3:24; Rom. 8:16)

B. The _____ of every believer (v. 1a-b)
[Jer. 29:8; 1 Thes. 5:21; 1 Cor. 12:10; 14:29; Rev. 2:2]

C. The _____ of false prophets (v. 1c)
[Matt. 7:15-16; Jn. 8:44, 47; Matt. 23:13; 2 Pet. 2:1; 2 Cor. 11:13;
1 Tim. 4:1]

II. Evaluate The Doctrine of Christ (v. 2-3)

A. Does the spirit _____ Christ? (v. 2)
[1 Cor. 12:3]

B. Does the spirit _____ Christ? (v. 3)
[2 Jn. 7]

III. Experience The Deliverance of God (vv. 4-6)

A. The _____ power of God's strength (v. 4)
[Matt. 16:18; Mk. 13:22; Rom. 8:31; Rev. 20:7-10]

B. The _____ of truth vs. error (vv. 5-6)

1. The _____ listens to false prophets (v. 5)
[Jn 3:31; 8:23; 15:19]

2. _____ listen to God (v. 6)
[Jn. 8:47; 10:3, 27]

TAKE HOME

- Are you using biblical discernment when it comes to _____ the teaching of others?
- Do you have a solid Christology that will withstand the _____ of the world?
- How do you know the _____ between the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error?

STUDY QUESTIONS

James 1:22 says, *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* These questions are designed to help you apply today’s message to your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others. For more information about joining a Small Group that uses these questions as the basis for discussion, prayer, and accountability, please call the church office at (661) 259-2913.

1. Read 1 John 3:24-4:1. Name some of the things the Holy Spirit does. What is the inner-testimony of the Holy Spirit? How does Romans 8:16 help you better understand this?

2. According to 1 John 4:1, what is the responsibility of every believer? Read Jer. 29:8; 1 Thes. 5:21; 1 Cor. 12:10; 14:29; Rev. 2:2. How do these verses tell us the same thing?

3. Do false prophets exist? How do we know? Why do so many shy away from calling false teachers false teachers? What can we learn from Matt. 7:15-16; Jn. 8:44, 47; Matt. 23:13; 2 Pet. 2:1; 2 Cor. 11:13; 1 Tim. 4:1?

4. Read 1 John 4:2-3. According to these verses how can we tell if a spirit is from God or not from God? How does 1 Cor. 12:3 and 2 Jn. 7 essentially say the same thing?

5. Read 1 John 4:4. Are you encouraged that God who is in you is greater than Satan who is in the world? What does this look like in our church and in your life? (Matt. 16:18; Mk. 13:22; Rom. 8:31; Rev. 20:7-10)

6. Read 1 John 4:5-6. Who does the world listen to? Who do Christians listen to? Why do some listen to the world and others listen to God? (Jn. 3:31; 8:23; 15:19; 8:47; 10:3, 27)

7. Read the take home questions. Which one encourages you or challenges you the most? Why? How will this passage give you greater confidence and have greater courage when it comes to spiritual discernment?

“The greatest danger to the church today is not humanism, paganism, atheism or agnosticism. The greatest danger is not increasing hostility against our faith from the culture. Our greatest danger is apostasy on the inside, arising from false teachers- theological liberals who deny and distort biblical doctrine and lead others down the same path.”

- Mark Hitchcock, *The Coming Apostasy:
Exposing the Sabotage of Christianity from Within*