

Authentic Christianity; an Exposition of 1 John

DISCERNING TRUTH AND ERROR

Text: 1 John 4:1-6 Pew Bible p. 1209

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My children, we should love people not only with words and talk, but by our actions and true caring. 1 John 3:18 NCV

Testing the Spirits 1 John 4:1

What does John mean when he refers to “spirits?”

Christians should not be _____ or naive.

Rather than be gullible, Christians should _____
_____. Why?

Criterion for Testing 1 John 4:2-3

According to John, how you can recognize the Spirit of God?

What false belief was being promoted in the church to whom John was writing?

The criterion for identifying the presence of the true Spirit of God is the willingness to make a _____ confession about Jesus Christ.

It is not only important to believe in Jesus; you must believe in the _____ Jesus.

What can happen if a person believes the wrong thing about Jesus?

Supremacy of the Spirit of God 1 John 4:4

How are believers able to overcome and be victorious?

What guarantees our victory over every evil power?

Recognizing the Spirit of Truth or Error 1 John 4:5-6

How does John describe the two groups he refers to in these verses?

Conclusion and Challenge

Truth to Take with You: True followers of Jesus learn to discern between truth and error.

Challenge:

What will you do as a result of this message?