



Part 17: From God or Not?

1 John 4:1-3

1. Fill in the blanks. **Spiritual Principle** – Unless people _____ Jesus is the _____ Savior, they are _____ from _____.

2. Read 1 John 4:1-3. How does 1 Timothy bring clarity to this passage?

a. What is taught about Satan in 2 Corinthians 4:4?

b. What does Proverbs 14:12 teach about the reality of spiritual deception?

c. Read Acts 26:18 and explain why Satan works *so hard* to keep people from encountering the *authentic* Jesus.

d. Why is Satan pleased to use the name “Jesus” to present a different Jesus than the One who actually lived among us?

3. Read 1 John 4:1. Who are false prophets?

a. Why are false prophets often gentle and kind in their approach? Why does Satan often prefer this approach?

b. Why is it critical to understand that demons teach their doctrines through other people?

c. Have you ever been deceived by teaching that distracted you from the authentic Jesus? Explain.

d. Why should we *avoid* calling genuine Christian preachers who are off on some *secondary* doctrines (not having to do with the essentials of the gospel/how to receive salvation) – “false prophets”?

4. Read 1 John 4:2-3. What is the test to discern whether someone’s teaching comes from the Holy Spirit or from an evil spirit?

a. Who is Jesus according to John 5:18 and Romans 9:5?

b. According to 1 John 4:2, what must we teach about the authentic Jesus?

c. Why might false teachers say Jesus was simply *some type of spirit* without a physical presence on earth?

d. Who is Jesus according to Acts 4:12?

5. Since the following world religions each distort who Jesus actually is, what can be known for certain about them according to our passage? Christian Scientists, Baha’is, Jehovah’s Witnesses, Judaism, Mormons, Sikhs, Buddhists, Hindus, Muslims.

a. Why do many struggle to affirm what the Bible actually teaches about these world religions?

b. Why should you pray for false teachers and people involved in false religions?

c. Which false religion would be most helpful *for you* to learn more about? What steps will you take to grow here?

6. Why should seeing all the distortions of Jesus throughout this world lead you to praise God for the clarity you have?
