

Spirit of Truth

1 Timothy 4

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow **deceiving spirits and things taught by demons**. **2** Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. **3** They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth. **4** For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, **5** because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

6 If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, nourished on the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. **7** Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, **train yourself to be godly**. **8** For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

Vs. 1

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow **deceiving spirits and things taught by demons**.

- These are strong words...
- The Spirit clearly says... in later times... some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons...
- How many believe we are living in the later times...
- Notice the absurdity of what is being taught...

Vs. 3,4

3 They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth.

4 For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving

- Where did marriage come from?
- Where did these certain foods come from?

In the last days, there will be deceiving spirits teaching things that are opposite of God's way...

They oppose and pervert the ways of God...
And they call everything that is good, evil...
And everything that is evil, good...

1 John 4

2 This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, **3** but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

John says there are two sides...

- And what divides the two sides is where they stand on who Jesus is...
- If a person acknowledges Jesus Christ came in the flesh...
- Was born of a Virgin by the Holy Spirit...
- That He is God in the flesh...
- That He healed the sick, raised the dead, cleansed the lepers and cast out demons...
- That He bore the sins of the world on the cross and died, then on the 3rd day was raised by the Holy Spirit...
- This person is from God...

If they are of a spirit that denies these things...

- They are not from God...
- This is the spirit of the antichrist...
- And this spirit is already at work in the world...

Vs. 4-6

4 You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

5 They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. **6** We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us;

- I have something to tell you today...
- Don't you ever be afraid of the devil...
- The devil is the loser...
- If Christ is in you... Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world...

John 16:33

33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

In Christ We are Overcomers

We are called to Overcome

We are called to walk in the Truth

How do we overcome the Spirit of deception and walk in Truth?

1. Fellowship with the Holy Spirit

John 16

13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth.

2. Train yourself to be Godly

1 Timothy 4

train yourself to be godly. 8 For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things...

Revelation 12

9 The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say:

“Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God,
and the authority of his Messiah.

For the accuser of our brothers and sisters,
who accuses them before our God day and night,
has been hurled down.

11

**They triumphed over him
by the blood of the Lamb
and by the word (*logos* - utterance) of their testimony;
they did not love their lives so much
as to shrink from death.**

12

Therefore rejoice, you heavens
and you who dwell in them!

But woe to the earth and the sea,
because the devil has gone down to you!
He is filled with fury,
because he knows that his time is short.”

- The devil is filled with fury because he knows his time is short...

3. Devoted to doing good

Titus 3

3 At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another.

4 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of **rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit**, 6 whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

8 This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to **devote themselves to doing what is good**.