

1 JOHN

BELOVED



ABIDING & ABOUNDING
IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

1 John 4

1 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. **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.

1 John 4

This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. **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.

1 John 4

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.

**God gave us His Spirit to test
every message and messenger
according to the truth of what
His word says about His Son.**

Three Questions from 1 John 4:1-6

1. What does it mean to test spirits?
2. Why does testing spirits matter?
3. How do we test spirits?

1 John 4:1 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.

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1. What does it mean to test spirits?

1 John 4:2 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.

1. What does it mean to test spirits?

**Testing spirits is discerning if the
messenger's message
wholeheartedly confesses the real
Jesus**

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1. What does it mean to test spirits?

1 John 4:3 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.

2. Why does testing spirits matter?

1 John 2:18 Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour.

2. Why does testing spirits matter?

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal
and kill and destroy.

2. Why does testing spirits matter?

Genesis 3:1 ... He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’? ”

2. Why does testing spirits matter?

**“Satan is at work to do one thing: Get
your eyes off of the real Jesus.”**

- Michael Reeves

2. Why does testing spirits matter?

We need to test the spirits because there are many who are twisting the truth to get us to turn away from the real Jesus.

2. Why does testing spirits matter?

1 John 4:4 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.

3. How do we test spirits?

1 John 4:2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh...

3. How do we test spirits?

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

3. How do we test spirits?

John 15:26 But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.

3. How do we test spirits?

1 John 4:5 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.

3. How do we test spirits?

Matthew 10:40 Whoever receives you
receives me, and whoever receives me
receives him who sent me.

3. How do we test spirits?

Ephesians 2:19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, **20** built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone

3. How do we test spirits?

1 John 4:6 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.

3. How do we test spirits?

We test the spirits by God's Spirit in us, through God's word taught to us, and with God's people around us.

3. How do we test spirits?