



## Confident Christian Living # 7 | Confidence Through Discernment

1 John 4:1-6 | 07/09/2023

**Introduction:** Since the beginning of time Satan has battled God's truth with deception. The spirit of the deceiver is to question God's word, and to replace it with his own substitute.

Parts of Jude 3 & 4 say that *"I found it necessary to write **appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints...**For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation...who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality..."*

Our warning comes from the word of God, but we must read it, if we will be protected.

We must **TRY THE SPIRITS** and use spiritual discernment.

### I. The \_\_\_\_\_ of a True Believer - verse 2

*"By this you know the Spirit of God."*

#### A. He confesses that Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_

1 Corinthians 2:12 *"Now we have received not the spirit of the world, **but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God..**" \**

2 Corinthians 5:19 *"that is, **in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.**"*

#### B. A true believer hears the \_\_\_\_\_ - verse 6a

1 Corinthians 2:14 *"**The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.**"*

## II. \_\_\_\_\_ of a False Teacher - verses 3-5

We need to be aware of the reality of false teachers.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 *“For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. **So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds.**”*

2 Peter 2:1 *“But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, **who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction.**”*

### A. \_\_\_\_\_ content - verse 3 (about Christ)

2 John 7 *“For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those **who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh.** Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist.”*

Cults and many religions are devout and strict but deny the deity of Christ.

### B. More \_\_\_\_\_ - verse 5

Large crowds are not an automatic guarantee of Biblical truth.

### C. Commercialism

2 Peter 2:3 *“And **in their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.**”*

False teachers exploit the truth.

D. Hidden \_\_\_\_\_

Jude 4 “*For certain people have **crept in unnoticed** who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ..*”

Matt 7:15 “***Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.***”

E. Will not hear the \_\_\_\_\_ - verse 6b

III. \_\_\_\_\_ of the Believer

A. Because of our \_\_\_\_\_ with God - verse 4a

B. We have \_\_\_\_\_ (overcome them in Christ).

Colossians 2:15 “*He disarmed the rulers and authorities and **put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.***” \*

John 16:33 “*I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.*”

Discouraged Christian - **greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world.**  
Satan will fight but he will never win!

**Conclusion:** In a day of confusion we can be confident, and take courage through Jesus Christ! Let's approach these last days with discernment and confidence.