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**Trusting The Truth Of Scripture Teaches Believers More About The Character Of God. The More You Know The Truth, The More You Trust God.**



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### 1 John 4:1-6

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. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 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. 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. They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. 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.

TRUST

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### TEST TO KNOW vs. 1

#### Beyond The Surface

- Labels can be deceiving
- Counterfeiting is present
- Deception is the oldest reality of evil

Matthew 7:15-20

“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.”

TRUST

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**TEST TO KNOW vs. 1**

Beyond The Surface  
Depend On The Holy Spirit

- Reveals truth
- Exposes evil
- Protection
- Reflection of spiritual fruit



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**TEST TO KNOW vs. 1**

Beyond The Surface  
Depend On The Holy Spirit  
No Small Variations

- All heresies are destructive
- Denying or changing the gospel
- Motivation is self centered
- Actions will expose the heart
- God will judge

2 Peter 2:1-3

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. And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed. 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.



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**TEST TO KNOW vs. 1**

Beyond The Surface  
 Depend On The Holy Spirit  
 No Small Variations

- All heresies are destructive
- Denying or changing the gospel
- Motivation is self centered
- Actions will expose the heart
- God will judge

1 Timothy 4:1-5

Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, for it is made holy by the word of God and prayer.



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**TEST TO KNOW vs. 1**

Beyond The Surface  
 Depend On The Holy Spirit  
 No Small Variations  
 Do Not Be Surprises

- Christ taught this
- First century church experienced
- Spiritual warfare is real
- “Many false prophets...”

Matthew 24:10-14

“And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.”



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### TEST TO KNOW vs. 1

Beyond The Surface  
 Depend On The Holy Spirit  
 No Small Variations  
 Do Not Be Surprises  
 Test And Know

- Know the truth to detect the false
- Wisdom
- Watch actions, words, and the heart... aligning with Scripture



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### KNOW THIS... vs. 2-3

Confession Of Jesus Christ

- Jesus is fully God and fully man
- Jesus is the Lamb of God
- Jesus is the only way to the Father



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**KNOW THIS...** vs. 2-3

Confession Of Jesus Christ

Confession Anchors Change

- Reality of new life – eternal life
- Reality of forgiveness – atonement
- Reality of surrender – Jesus is Lord



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**KNOW THIS...** vs. 2-3

Confession Of Jesus Christ

Confession Anchors Change

No Confession Not From God

- Remember confession brings change
- No change, no confession
- Changing the gospel

Matthew 7:21–23

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’”



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**KNOW THIS... vs. 2-3**

Confession Of Jesus Christ  
 Confession Anchors Change  
 No Confession Not From God  
 The Battle Wages On... But...

- The evil one does not rest
- Steal joy
- Divert from salvation
- The price of repentance paid in full



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**TRUTH OF KNOWING... vs. 4-6**

From God

- Created in His image
- Known by God
- Child of God



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## TRUTH OF KNOWING... vs. 4-6

From God

Overcome Evil

- Salvation bring victory
- If God is for us... - Romans 8:31–39



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### Romans 8:31–39

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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**TRUTH OF KNOWING... vs. 4-6**

From God

Overcome Evil

Know And Listen

- The world – anyone who is not a believer
- The world listens to itself
- From God – knows and listens
- The world does not listen to believers
- Who you listen to reveals your heart



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**TRUSTING THE TRUTH  
EVIDENCE OF A LIFE WITH CHRIST?**

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