

LIVING RIGHT IN A WRONG WORLD
DISTINGUISHING TRUTH FROM ERROR
1 JOHN 4:1-6



The Heart of the Matter

Cults and false religions abound in this generation. Thousands of “churches” exist that are led by deceptive but convincing individuals whose knowledge of sound doctrine and biblical truth is dubious and often even dangerous. To exacerbate the problem, our postmodern times are marked by such an extreme emphasis on tolerance and pluralism that anyone who takes a stand against false teaching is labeled “bigoted” and “judgmental.” The proliferation of religious error should not surprise us, because the Adversary fuels its fire. Paul clearly warned that “even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light” (2 Corinthians 11:14). Therefore, it’s easy to see how up-to-date John’s command is today: “test the spirits” (1 John 4:1).



Discovering the Way

1. What’s Happening in the Name of “Religion”?

The quick answer to this question is just what was predicted so long ago.

2. Two Serious Commands We Must Obey (1 John 4:1)

John warned us not to believe everything we hear but to test what we hear to see whether or not it is of God.

3. Why and How Our Obedience Is Important (1 John 4:1-3)

Obedience is important because many false teachers are in the world, and we know they are false if they don’t confess Jesus as God incarnate.

4. Two Contrasting Groups of Followers (1 John 4:4-6)

Those who are from God have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, but those who are from the world speak as the world speaks.



Starting Your Journey

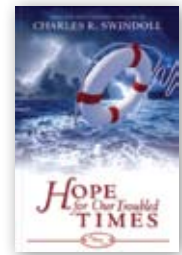
The essential principles we need to remember: when searching for the truth, listen carefully to the one teaching and look closely at those who are following.



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