1 John 4

November 27th, 2016

1. <u>Test every spirit vs. 1-6</u>

Dear Friends, so not believe every spirit but test the spirits to see if they are from God or of God.

Test every spirit - why? Because many false prophets have gone out into the world!

Word spirit - pneuma - a spirit higher than man but lower than God, i.e. an angel.

1 used of demons, or evil spirits, who were conceived as inhabiting the bodies of men
2 the spiritual nature of Christ, higher than the highest angels and equal to God, the divine nature of Christ

Timothy 4:1 - "The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons."

Don't believe everything you hear John the apostle says!

Many false prophets have gone out into the world.

"Not every one who speaks in the a spirit is a prophet, he is only a prophet if he walks in the way of the Lord." (Didache 11 &12).

This is how you know who is from God and who is the false.
Every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God is not from God.

This is the spirit of the anti-Christ, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

So many false messages about the way home, the way to eternal life.

1. *You can't really know.*
2. *Jesus is one of the many that have come from God*
3. *Jesus is just a great teacher like others.*
4. *Jesus was a great leaders, like his teachings but not someone you need to consider as God.*
5. *Muslim Faith*
6. *Hindu Faith*
7. *Atheists*
8. *Just be a good person don't need Jesus.*
9. *How can we trust the history, bible, etc.*
10. *We are all powerful like Jesus we are all like God.*

We are from God and have overcome the, because the one who is in you is in the world.

John knew he was from God, such confidence saying:

"Whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us.

This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

What would Jesus Do?

- *Moral Philosophy Class*
- *Ask 10 people on the street*
    - *How do you get to heaven?*
    - *Who is God?*
    - *Does God exist?*
    - *How do you get to heaven?*

Who do you trust - Jesus Christ is the one!

Submit to him, sit at his feet and let Jesus teach you more truth not the world.

Study the BIBLE!

Why?
For the truth that sets you free and even more importantly to find a Divine Love!

2. God loved us first vs. 7-21

What is the most amazing about our God is how he loves us.

His greatest attribute is not his power, not his wisdom, not his integrity, not his ability, not his miracles but his LOVE!

When I studied the Bible it was not the fear of hell that attracted me, not the cool teachings it was that God loved me!

* I remember reading about the cross of Jesus and how God died and was brutally murdered for me, for you and for this whole world not to guarantee us responding but so that we might have a chance to respond!
* If he died for me, I will die for him. I will give up life for him and give it to him so I may meet this Lord someday.

* I would do anything to meet my Lord, do anything to meet my Lord face to face. Because he won me over!

We love because he loved us first.
Love comes from God.
God is love.

Let us love one another, for love comes from God.

This is how we know what love is:

"Not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."

vs. 13-21

No fear in Love.
Perfect love drives out all fear.
God is Love.
whoever lives in love lives in God.

We love because he first loved us:

Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

Because he first loved me

By Deborah Ann

I lift my eyes ~ heavenward,
till I envision in my mind . . .
the glory that's awaiting me
the day with my Lord, I'll be

My heart swells up with joy,
a chorus of praise begins
for all my God, has done for me
for all, when with Him, I'll be.

I feel the burning in my soul,
as my trust begins to flare
I know my hope will carry me
till the day with my God, I'll be.

My spirit sings sweet melodies,
eternal peace, they usher in
oh, the bliss that's awaiting me
on the day with my Savior, I'll be.

I lift my eyes ~ heavenward,
till I envision in my mind . . .
the day with my Lord, I will be
all because, He first loved me!