

Who is Telling the Truth?

1 John 4:1-6

1. **Evaluation and discernment are unavoidable in a world of counterfeits.** 1 John 4:1
 - A. "Do not believe every spirit."
 - B. Evaluate each spirit who claims to represent God.
2. **Every spirit or person that knowledge's that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God.** 1 John 4:2
Acts 2: 22, 23, 32
3. **Every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God.** 1 John 4:3
4. **Every spirit that speaks from a worldly perspective is not from God.** 1 John 4:4-5
 - A. We have the Holy Spirit who is greater than Satan and his representatives in every sense of the word greater.
 - B. We have the Word of God that is our authority and manual for all life's decisions.
 - C. We have godly spirit-filled teachers who warn us about spiritual dangers. Hebrews 13:17
5. **Every spirit that embraces other godly teachers is from God.** 1 John 4:6

The test of authenticity

Mere words or a single formula will not always expose counterfeits. James 2:19

Romans 10:9-10 is a truth formula. "If you confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord."

Jesus said many will come before Him on the day of judgment and say Lord, Lord. Matthew 7:21-23

Many times Jesus rebuked demons for speaking the truth about Him. Mark 5:7

John gives us some practical ways to evaluate people.

1 John 2:15

1 John 2:29

1 John 3:10

1 John 3:24

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