1 John 4 **try the spirits** Main Service

part 1 10/30/22

v 1 Hist: the NT had not yet been completed

Spir: **Proverbs 14:15**

Doct: *the spirit of truth* vs. *the spirit of error,* v 6 **Job 26:4**

the spirit of antichrist, v 3

v 2 The Supreme Truth of the Holy Bible = ***the doctrine of Christ*** **2 John 9**

I. Person of Christ = the God/man **1 Timothy 3:16**

II. Work of Christ = full salvation **Hebrews 10:10-18**

v 3 Doct: *it should come* = ch 2:18, *that antichrist* = *that Wicked* **2 Thes 2:8**

Hist: gnostics : they deny the humanity of Christ - 1st century error

agnostics : they deny the divinity of Christ - 21st century error

Wikipedia : **gnosticism** ('having knowledge') is a collection of religious ideas and systems which coalesced in the late 1st century AD among Jewish sects. These groups emphasized personal spiritual knowledge ('*gnosis*') above the orthodox teachings, traditions, and authority of religious institutions. Gnostic teaching presents a distinction between a supreme, hidden God and a malevolent lesser god who is responsible for creating the material universe. Consequently, Gnostics considered all material existence as flawed or evil.
They held the principal element of salvation comes by having a direct knowledge of the hidden divinity. This higher knowledge ('*gnosis*') is attained by way of mystical or esoteric insight. Gnostic texts do not deal in concepts of sin and repentance; but with illusion and enlightenment.

v 4 Doct: *greater is he that is in you* - **1 Corinthians 2:12-13**

Spir: **Hebrews 10:21-25 Acts 17:11 Titus 1:9**

v 5 *speak they of the world* **John 3:31**

They have not the *new birth*, therefore they teach a worldly or human approach to God.

- men reach God by good deeds and good works
- God approves sincere 'religious' and 'spiritual' devotion
- being kind to strangers makes one acceptable to God

v 6 *We are of God . . . hereby* ***know we*** *the spirit of truth*

Pract: **Pr 14:15, 18 Job 34:3 Ps 34:8 & 119:103 Pr 1:23 1 Thess 2:13**