

“The Necessity of Discerning Truth From Error: Part 2”

1 John 4:1-6

Message Title: “The Necessity of Discerning Truth From Error: Part 2”

- I. The **Command** of Discernment (vs 1a)
 - a. To Discern We Must **Stop Being Gullible** (vs 1a)
 - b. To Discern We Must **Start Testing the spirits** (vs 1b)
- II. The **Explanation** of Discernment (vs 1b)
- III. The **Instruction** of Discernment (vs 2-6)
 - a. To Discern We Must Give the **Christology Test** (vs 2-3)
 - b. To Discern We Must Give the **Soteriology Test** (vs 4a)

John 3:5 “Jesus answered, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.**”

1 John 2:29 “If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.”

1 John 5:3 “For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.”

1 John 5:4 “For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, *even* our faith.”

1 John 2:15-17 “Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. ¹⁷ And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”

1 John 5:18 “We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.”

1 John 5:19-20 “*And* we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness. ²⁰ And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, *even* in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.”

- c. To Discern We Must Give the **Bibliology** Test (vs 5-6)

2 Timothy 3:16 “All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:”

Revelation 22:18-19 “For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: ¹⁹ And

if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book.”

2 Peter 1:20-21 “Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. ²¹ For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.”

Titus 2:10 “Not purloining, but shewing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.”

IV. The **Power** of Discernment (vs 4)

1 John 2:20 “But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.”

1 John 2:24 “Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father.”

1 John 2:27 “But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.”

1 Peter 1:22-25 “Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: ²³ Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. ²⁴ For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: ²⁵ But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.”

John 10:28-29 “**And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.**”

Matthew 11:25-26 “At that time Jesus answered and said, **I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. ²⁶ Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight.**”

Psalms 119:97-105 “O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day. ⁹⁸ Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me. ⁹⁹ I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation. ¹⁰⁰ I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts. ¹⁰¹ I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word. ¹⁰² I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me. ¹⁰³ How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth! ¹⁰⁴ Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way. ¹⁰⁵ Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

V. The **Application** of Discernment (vs 6)

a. We Must Have a **Discerning Heart**

b. We Must Have a **Discerning Family**

c. We Must Have a **Discerning Church**

Ephesians 5:27 “That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”

1 Corinthians 2:15 “But he that is spiritual judgeth all things...”