

## Message #5

## II John 1:9-11

**EVERY ONE OF US HAS A RESPONSIBILITY BEFORE GOD TO IDENTIFY FALSE RELIGIOUS TEACHERS AND NOT LET SUCH PEOPLE INTO OUR HOMES, NOR IN ANY WAY VERBALLY OR SPIRITUALLY COMMEND THEM.**

**TOPIC #1** – How to evaluate true teachers from false teachers. **1:9**

**Way #1** - A false teacher will continually go beyond the true teachings in the Word of God about Jesus Christ. **1:9a**

The word “too far” is one that means to advance forward and to lead on. One who does not have a true relationship with God will be one who is not content with God’s truth, but will continually go beyond the teachings of the Bible, particularly when it comes to the doctrine of Jesus Christ.

1. Jesus Christ is God, the second member of the Trinity. He is Creator and Sustainer.
2. Jesus Christ was a real person who was born of a virgin that lived on this earth.
3. Jesus Christ is the Jewish Messiah, the King of the Jews.
4. Jesus Christ is the only Savior—that is He is the only way to being right with a Holy God.  
It is not of works; it is only by believing in Him can one be saved.
5. Jesus Christ literally died, literally was buried and literally arose from the dead.
6. Jesus Christ will physically come back in all of His glory as second member of the Godhead and will reign over everything.

**Way #2** - A false teacher will not continually remain in the true teachings of God. **1:9b**

A false teacher will not ever content himself with the Bible. Those who are false want more than Biblical instruction.

**Way #3** - A true teacher will continually remain in the true teachings of God. **1:9c**

The verb “abide or remain” is present tense, indicating it is the continual focus of life. The one commitment to the truth of God becomes the basis for judging false teachers. It begins with truth about Jesus Christ.

**TOPIC #2** – What to do when you spot a false teacher. **1:10**

I want you to notice the text—“If anyone.” It does not matter who the person is.

**Action #1** - We do not receive a false teacher into our house. **1:10a**

The particular tense of the verb “receive,” which is present tense, is combined with a negative prohibition “not” and this means that the action was in progress and it needed to be stopped.

**Action #2** - We do not give a false teacher a greeting. **1:10b**

The word “Greet” is one that refers to joyous salutation or greeting. Many times this greeting was given in writing (Acts 15:23; 23:25-26; James 1:1). Sometimes a greeting came at the beginning of a letter (James 1:1) and sometimes it came at the end of a letter (II Cor. 13:11). Now the emphasis here is on verbal greeting. No formal or friendly verbal greeting. You do not say anything to a false teacher that would indicate you in any way accept them, acknowledge them or appreciate them.

**TOPIC #3** – Why we must respond this way to false teachers. **1:11**

In this verse there is a sober thought presented—if we accept or acknowledge those false and welcome them into our home, we “participate” in their evil deeds. That word “participate” is the Greek word “koinoneo,” which is the word for fellowship which means we share in and take part in and have communion with false teachers.

**Practical Question #1** - How do we determine who is true and who is false?

Continual dedication to rightly dividing and understanding the truth of God’s Word. It begins with truth about Jesus Christ.

**Practical Question #2** - Why should we determine who is true and who is false?

1. We can lose our own development if we don’t. **1:8a**
2. We can lose full rewards. **1:8b**
3. We actually participate in evil. **1:11**

**Practical Question #3** - To whom should we apply these principles?

To “anyone” that comes into our world and starts teaching or saying things pertaining to God. Family, friends, acquaintances, pastors, missionaries, evangelists, TV & radio preachers, S.S. teachers, anyone!

**Practical Question #4** - How do we reconcile this judgmental scrutiny with Biblical challenges to be friendly and hospitable?

The answer is simple—both are demanded in the Bible. We are challenged to be hospitable in many passages (Rom. 12:13; Heb. 13:2; I Pet. 4:8-9). However, we are also challenged to make judgments and get away from those false in many passages (Matt. 10:14-15; Titus 1:9-10).

**Practical Question #5** - How far should these teachings and principles be taken in our own individual lives?

1. Those continually not abiding in the Bible and sound doctrine should not be supported by us in any way.

2. Those continually not abiding in the Bible and sound doctrine should not be allowed into our homes. You have no business before God letting heretics step one foot into your house, which hopefully is dedicated to the Lord. If someone comes to your home and their intent is to teach others false things, do not even let them into your house. You do not want them in any way to think that you think they are interesting and welcome.
3. Those continually not abiding in the Bible and sound doctrine should not be verbally acknowledged.

You decide for yourself. Know this—your development, your rewards and your participation in evil is on the line on this very issue.