



**Notes:** 1. Introduction

- a. Spirits of truth & spirits of error exist
  - Halloween night
- b. Satan has kingdom of demons, & God has his spirit angelic messengers
  - Jms 2:19 Demons also believe in God
  - What does spirit say about Jesus?
- c. Three basic truths

2. Realm of false spirits (vs 5)

- a. Do not confess Jesus has come in the flesh - incarnation (God became human)
  - spirits are of this world (vs 5)
  - world is under Satan's influence
    - x Prince of the power of the air
    - x 2 Cor 4:4 God of this world
- b. False spirits speak of the world
  - covetousness (greedy)
  - sensuality (pleasures of the flesh)
- c. False spirits heard in the world
  - false spirits power behind false prophets
    - 2 Pet 2:1-2 false prophets & false teachers bring damnable heresies

3. Four tests of false spirits

- a. Check the content (verse 3)
- b) Check the congeniality (agreement with popular masses)

- 3 c. Check the commercialism  
 - love of money
- d. Check the character  
 - world hears false prophets & false teachers  
 - "nearness is likeness"  
 x people like to be among people they like  
 x does life match their message?

4. Relationship of the Believer (vs. 6)

- a. Christian is of God  
 - temple of Holy Spirit - 1 Cor 6:19-20  
 - purchased by Jesus Christ on cross  
 - 1 Cor 2:14 natural man, spiritual Christian, carnal Christian - 1 Cor 2:3, 12-3:1  
 x 1 Pet 2:1-2 desire the Word

- b. Christian knows God  
 - Christian hears God's preacher (the Bible)

5. Reasoning of the Saved

- a. Christian looking for Spirit of truth  
 b. Christians also looks out for spirit of error  
 c. Holy Spirit also called Spirit of Truth  
 x Holy Spirit speaks of Jesus Christ  
 d. Other religions have spirit of error behind them & doctrines of demons - 1 Tim 4:1  
 e. Mature Christian

- mature grown-up Christian  
 - walking in discernment - Heb 5:14  
 x Jesus learned obedience by his suffering - Heb 5:8  
 x skillful in Word of righteousness  
 x Using Word of God to discern both good & evil  
 - Heb 4:12 God's Word  
 x quick & powerful  
 x divides apart soul & spirit  
 x discerns thoughts & intent of the heart

6. Conclusion

- a. False spirits deny Jesus' humanity  
 - incarnation = God became flesh  
 - Emmanuel = God with us
- b. By implication deny Jesus deity