

TESTING THE PROPHETS

1 John 4:1-6

"Sanctify them
by the Truth.
Your Word is Truth"

I. Introduction

II. The command to test the spirits of those claiming to impart spiritual truth. 1

A. We see that John is addressing believers.

B. It's important that we know what kind of spirit is teaching us.

III. How can we distinguish real spiritual truth from false spiritual truth in the broad sense? 2-3

A. Instructions about how we are to recognize a true and divine teaching by a person or a group.

B. Was John saying that the only way to tell whether a teaching is true or not is by their presentation of Christ?

IV. We can have confidence as we believe the true gospel of grace. 4-6 4

A. We see that if we are of God, we have already overcome the false prophets and false teachers. 4

B. Those in the world want to stick with those in the world. 5-6

C. This is how we know who is operating in the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

V. Conclusion