

LIVING IN TRUTH - OUTLINE

CTRF 030622

Keys to "Living in Truth"

"The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us." - 1 John 3:24 NASB

1. KNOWING THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH

- a. The work of the Holy Spirit IN US: **"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. 16 "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; 17 [that is] the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, [but] you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you. - John 14:15-17 NASB**
- b. Jesus describes the ONE who will be given to us with 3 distinct characteristics:
 - i. The HELPER = parakletos = One who comes along side us and brings comfort, advocates for us (GOD is for US, not against us), as if to plead our cause in front of a judge.
 - ii. The Spirit of Truth = He LEADS us into ALL truth and would "bring to remembrance what Jesus had spoken"
 - iii. The Spirit Whom the world cannot receive: That is, HE is CONTRARY to the Spirit of this age, the spirit of the world.
- c. The Holy Spirit bears witness: **"The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God," - Romans 8:16 NASB**
- d. The Holy Spirit leads us: **"For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God." - Romans 8:14 NASB**
- e. The Holy Spirit teaches us all things: **"As for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him." 1 John 2:27 NASB**

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. - 1 John 4:1 NASB

2. TESTING EVERY SPIRIT

- a. We can't afford to be "spiritually gullible". We must test every spirit.
- b. We can be "corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ": **But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. 4 For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or [if] you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted--you may well put up with it! - 2 Corinthians 11:3-4 NKJV**
 - i. "Another Jesus"
 - ii. "A different spirit"
 - iii. "A different gospel"
 - iv. We can't just "put up" with these things or we'll be deceived.
- c. Warnings about false prophets in scripture:

- i. **"For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect." - Matthew 24:24 NASB**
- ii. **"Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. 16 "You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn [bushes] nor figs from thistles, are they? 17 "So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. - Matthew 7:15-17 NASB**
- iii. **"I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; 30 and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. - Acts 20:29-30 NASB**
- iv. **But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. 2 Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned; 3 and in [their] greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep. - 2 Peter 2:1-3 NASB**
- d. While we must be discerning, we also can't DESPISE prophesy: **"do not despise prophetic utterances. 21 But examine everything [carefully;] hold fast to that which is good"; - 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21 NASB**
- e. How do we test the spirits? What is their confession? **By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; 3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the [spirit] of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world. - 1 John 4:2-3 NASB**
 - i. While modern cults and religions deny Jesus is God, the false teachings John was dealing with denied Jesus' humanity.
 - ii. Questions for testing the spirits:
 1. Does this exalt the PERSON and WORK of Jesus? Am I more drawn to the TRUE Jesus because of this? Or does it exalt a person or their "ministry" more than Jesus?
 2. How has it affected my attitude toward the Lord and His Word? How has it affected my relationship with God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, self, other Christians, the world, and sin?

You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world. 5 They are from the world; therefore they speak [as] from the world, and the world listens to them. 6 We are from God; he who knows God listens to us; he who is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error. - 1 John 4:4-6 NASB

3. OVERCOMING FALSEHOOD

- a. We are overcoming because we are FROM GOD - born of Him from above by the SPIRIT OF TRUTH
- b. We are overcoming because of the SPIRIT OF TRUTH IN US Who is GREATER