

Verifying The Message We Hear

August 08, 2010

Text

1John 4: 1

Objectives:

1. To able to discern truth and error.
2. To able to test the spirits whether they come from God or not
3. To learn how to verify the messages we hear

Introduction:

Illus.1 IAEA –to verify nuclear proliferation FDA –to verify and certify if a drug can be mass produce . Their verifications are up until the smallest things we fail to notice. The Lord Jesus Himself reminds us to be aware of false Christs ,false prophets , false teachers .Remember Lesson from the fig tree about some of these people. Mt 24:24 .

The apostles told us to test the spirits , it means we are responsible if we fail, it means looking into details of what we hear, it means careful examination if it is truth or error.

Cult escapee told about how they been trapped into cult by just hearing good voices. Some cultic can deceived people by beautiful words , and before they realized they are trap in an error that they themselves cant escape.

Illus.2 a brother who watch Da Vinci code movie began to doubt the bible.

Definition

To Verify - to prove the truthfulness

- to confirm
- to find out the truth
- to test the correctness

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Ways Of Verification

1. By Testing the spirit -1 John 4:11

John told us not to believe all the spirits (human spirits and supernatural).

Human spirits – cult like false apostle –quiboloy, Soriano, Russell

Supernatural spirits - horoscope , spirit of the glass , Satanism, albularyo

Test - because a deceiver will not show its true color

Satan himself is a deceiver 2 Cor 11:14

2. By Comparing to the word Mat4:4,7,10

The Lord himself compares satan perversion of Gods word but the Lord use the Word of God to rebuke the devil - Acts 17:11 – Bereans - the examiners

3. By Checking the fruit – Mat7:16

Fruit is the best testing of what the tree is. If it is hard to verify, wait and see the Fruit, no tree can hide its fruit, it will come out in its season.

The Spirit We Test

1. False prophets – saying they are the Christ, False Teachers- deceiving doctrines
2. Familiar spirit – albularyo , palm readers – they read and discern and sometimes communicate to spirits. We are prohibited to communicate to spirits except to our God. Lev19:31,20:6 , Be reminded always of Deut 29:29

Improving and Progressing In Discernment

1. Rooted in Gods Word – the only source of truth
2. Applying the Word - as anything is useless w/o applying it , so is with Gods word –James 2:22
3. Be Filled With the Spirit of God – being filled is keeping yourself discerning
4. Acquire Wisdom - Prov 1:2-6
5. Be Prayerful - Prayer reaches out to God who knows even the deepest secrets Jeremiah 33:3

Conclusion:

Paul rebuke a spirit of divination– Paul discern it was not from God – the spirit seems comes from God but it is not, it was rebuke by Paul . Acts 16:16-18