

The Spirit of Truth and the Spirit of Error



1 John 4:6

- **Review – explain the four kinds of spirits – (1) The Holy Spirit; (2) The human spirit; (3) Angelic spirits (Angels of God; and Satan’s demons); (4) The spirit of dominion.**
- **How to recognize the Spirit of Truth: there are three ways.**
- **How do I know when I am yielded to the Holy Spirit?**
- 1. When I am yielded to His Covenant (Word) (John 8:31).**
 - **Know - means to establish a relationship with.**
 - **Truth that is known is truth that is accepted.**
 - **The key to always being able to accept the truth is to become addicted to it.**
- 2. When I am yielded to His commandments (John 13:34).**
 - **Until we understand the art of true love, we will never be able to test, recognize, or discern the spirit of error.**
 - **Love is not a feeling but an action.**
 - **Love carries with it a word called sacrifice (1 Cor. 13).**
- 3. When I am yielded to His Commission (Mark 16:15-20).**
 - **When the Holy Spirit gives you an assignment, nothing can stop you from carrying out the assignment if you continue in His Word.**

How to Recognize the Spirit of Error

- **Not every spirit is the Spirit of God.**
- **Error – the wandering away.**
- **Error – the forsaking of the right path (Matt. 7:13).**
- **Error – to leave that which is true, right, and doctrinally sound.**
- **The spirit of error is always subtle, cunning, and crafty.**
- **How to recognize the spirit of error.**
- 1. Check the attitude (Phil. 2).**
- 2. Check the thoughts (2 Cor. 10: 3-6).**
- 3. Check the intent. Intent is the desired result of a particular action.**

- Is what being taught motivated by love or is it by greed?
- Is it motivated by love or lust?
- Is it love or selfishness?

How to Recognize the Spirit of the False Prophet 2 Peter 2:1-19

- The carrier of the spirit of error are the false prophets and false teachers (2 Peter 2:1).
 1. We recognize the false prophets by their damnable heresies.
 - A. Heresies – a self-willed opinion, which is substituted to avoid submission to the power of truth.
 - B. Choosing an erroneous opinion to conform to a personal preference.
 - C. Choosing that which is designed to gain the advantage.
 - The outcome of heresies is (1) division, and (2) formation of sects (1 Peter 2:1-9).
 2. The false prophets despise authority (2 Pet. 2:10).
 3. The false prophets receive the wages of unrighteousness (they work for money – 2 Pet. 2:13-17).
 4. They speak great swelling words of emptiness; they allure through the lusts of the flesh (2 Pet. 2:18-19).