

**BOOK OF 1 JOHN**  
Lesson # 11 -Truth and Error  
Scripture Reading: 1John 4:1-6

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Introduction:

1. Which one is real; which one is fake -Use example
2. We have the responsibility to distinguish between truth and error.
3. We distinguish between truth and error by...

**I. TESTING THE SPIRITS -vs. 1-3**

A. THE KNOWLEDGE OF FALSE PROPHETS

1. Jesus warned about false prophets -Mt 7:15-20
2. Paul warned about false apostles -2Co 11:13-15

B. SPECIFICALLY Gnostic

1. They denied that Jesus came in the flesh
  - a. They believed flesh itself was evil
  - b. They denied that God could dwell in sinful flesh
2. They are the Antichrist because they deny Christ

**II. ACKNOWLEDGE WE HAVE OVERCOME -vs. 4**

A. WE HAVE BECOME CHRISTIANS

1. We were not deceived by the world
2. We heard the truth and were set free

B. REMAIN STEADFAST

1. We can be led away by another teaching -Ga 1:6-8
2. Some twist the words of life -2Pe 3:14-18
3. We must hold on to what we have heard -2Ti 3:13-15

**III. WE ARE OF GOD -vs 5, 6**

A. THE WORLD HEARS ITS OWN

1. The world has a large audience
2. Their message appeals to many -2Ti 4:3, 4
3. The world hates contradiction -Jn 15:18-20

B. NOT EVERYTHING IS RIGHT

1. The world wants us to believe there is no wrong
2. God distinguishes between clean and unclean -Le 11:47, 13:59, 14:57
3. His word reveals truth -Jn 8:31, 32
4. His word sharpens us to distinguish between good and evil -He 5:12-14

Conclusion:

1. Truth is far too important to alter to our own desires.
2. We must study and learn the truth so we can confidently follow it.