



Abounding in Fruitfulness

By Terry Kountz on May 3, 2024

TODAY'S READING: 1 John 4

In 1 John 4:6, John provides a clear criterion for discerning the influence of the Holy Spirit against that of deceiving spirits. He asserts that true believers, those who are from God, will heed the teachings of the apostles, which are rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Conversely, those who refuse these teachings reveal their separation from God's truth.

John is emphasizing the importance of sound doctrine and the necessity of staying aligned with the scriptures. This discernment between the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error is crucial for maintaining the purity and integrity of the faith.

Application:

- **Seek Sound Doctrine:** Immerse yourself in the study of scripture to ground yourself in God's truth. Be vigilant in aligning your beliefs and practices with the Word of God as taught by those faithful to the Gospel.
- **Practice Discernment:** Be aware of various teachings and influences in your spiritual life. Test them against the truth of Scripture to ensure they are from God.
- **Foster Obedience to Truth:** Develop a heart that is responsive to God's Word. Cultivate a spirit of obedience that listens to and follows the teachings that align with scripture.

As we continue to navigate a world filled with varying voices and conflicting messages, let us cling to the Spirit of truth. By grounding ourselves in the teachings of scripture, we can confidently discern and reject the spirit of error, living lives that glorify God and lead others to His truth.

PRAYER: God, thank You for the gift of Your Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth, who guides us into all truth. Help me to be discerning of the teachings I encounter, to embrace what is true, and to reject what is false. Strengthen me to remain steadfast in Your truth, always ready to listen to Your voice and resist the spirit of error. May my life reflect Your truth and love in a world filled with confusion and deceit.

TOMORROW'S READING: Weekend is for catch-up and review.

MONDAY'S READING: Psalm 100

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