

10/18/18

### What About The Anit-Christ Spirit?

#### **1Jn. 4:1-3**

John has two families in mind, the children of God and the children of the devil. 1Jn. 2:29-4:21

John has just finished dealing with the assurance of salvation. 1Jn. 3:19-24

1. The first part of verse twenty-four says that God makes himself at home in us and us in Him, because we keep his commandments.
  2. The second part of verse twenty-four says that the evidence of God dwelling in us is that his Spirit has been given to us.
  3. This is a transitional verse to introduce his new section of the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.
- \* John will focus on the Holy Spirit versus the spirit of error: Test of discernment. 1Jn. 4:1-6

God gives to us the Holy Spirit only because we believe in all that the name of his Son Jesus Christ stands for, and the Holy Spirit will illuminate and defend all that the name stands for, for He will not speak of himself, Jesus said.

1. We are to live in the light, not darkness.
2. We are to live in the world, but not of the world.
3. We are to live in the Spirit of truth, not by the spirit of error.

\* John turns again to the doctrinal test, but looks at it from the viewpoint of the spirit behind it, the source.

John commands the believer to examine the spirit of all teaching in order to confirm that it is the Spirit of God, which is characterized by three things. 1Jn. 4:1-3

- I.** The command to test the spirits. vs. 1
- II.** The clear test of the spirit. vs. 2-3a
- III.** The confident identity of the spirit. vs. 3b-d

- I. The command to test the spirits. vs. 1**
  - A.** The imperative command is to cease a practice that was going on at the time, dealing with Inspiration. vs. 1a-b

\* “Beloved, do not believe every spirit.”

    1. The one being addressed is the believer.
      - a.** The word beloved “agapetos” is a term of endearment out of love and concern.
      - b.** The word appears five times. 1Jn. 3:2, 21; 4:1, 7, 11
    2. The negative command is a positive warning by reproving them.
      - a.** They were not to believe every spirit was from God, in the Greek literally it says, “Stop believing every spirit”.
      - b.** The implication is obvious, some of the believers were believing what the Gnostics were says as from God.
        - 1) The Gnostics were saying they were prophesying by the Spirit.

- 2) They were saying that they were teaching, inspired by God.
- 3) They probably prefaced it by “thus says the Lord”.

**B.** The command is to be discrete in what they believe. vs. 1c-d

\* “But test the spirits, whether they are of God.”

1. The word “but” marks the sharp contrast.
  - a. Between the practice of some to except everything as from God.
  - b. And what all believers should be doing, being discrete and discerning.
2. The believer on the positive side was to test the spirits.
  - a. The word test “dokimazo”, means to prove or examine, this being the only appearance in the epistle.
  - b. The word is used to prove or confirm something good in motive or hope by standing the test not to condemn, but approve as genuine or the proving of metals.
  - c. The apostle Paul used the word for the test of a Christians works at the Bema-Seat of Christ. 1Cor. 3:13

\* Another word in the Greek “peirazo” is used to test and find wanting.

3. The believer would as a result discover if the prophets were speaking under the “Inspiration” of God.
  - a. The word “they” refers to the prophets and the source of the spirit can always be known by the contents spoken.
  - b. The content of the message must be examined against the Scripture.
  - c. The Spirit of God does not contradict the written word, they are one. 2Pet. 1:20-21

**C.** The command is accompanied with the reason. vs. 1e

\* “Because many false prophets have gone out into the world.”

1. The number of false prophets in the world are many.
  - a. The phrase is made up of two words.
  - b. The word false “pseudes” means lying or deceitful, prophet “prophetes” a person inspired by a spirit, a deceptive spirit speaking by a person a false revelation.
2. The arena of their practice is in the world.
  - a. The world “kosmos” is used in the sense of the inhabited earth, among the people who do not know God or are of God.
  - b. John used the word 22 times in the letter.
    - 1) The life-style of the world. 1Jn. 2:15-16
    - 2) The oneness of the world. 1Jn. 4:5

3) The protection from the world. 1Jn. 5:4

3. The prophets John indicates were Gnostics.
  - a. They were saying they knew God.
  - b. They were saying they walked with God.
  - c. They were saying they were from God.
  - d. They were of the world, the spirit of error.

### Illustration

God sent a young prophet to confront Jeroboam at the altar at Bethel, but was deceived by an old prophet. 1Kings 13

\* The compulsion of man and tendency is to contradict, add and take away from the Scriptures.

### Application

1. Some people are very gullible and excepting of everything without testing the source.

- a. They are unlearned and undisciplined in their lives, being carnal.
- b. They often believe when signs and wonders are manifested to be valid credentials and God related, but are as wrong as Nicodemus. Jn. 3:2

\* The man of sin, the Anti-Christ will perform signs and wonders. 2Thess. 2:9-10

- c. The false teachers or prophet say many Biblical truth and other truths. 2Pet 1:5-9

2. This command was nothing new, God had commanded the same thing in the Old Testament.

- a. When a prophet spoke and it did not come to pass, he spoke presumptuously. Deut. 18:22
- b. The command against false prophets was to put them to death. Deut 13:1-5
- c. King Jehosaphat and Ahab inquire of the prophet as to the outcome of their victory and God put a lying spirit in their mouth.
  - 1) Zedekiah the false prophet made horns of iron and said they would push the Syrians and consume them. 1King 22
  - 2) Micaiah God's prophet gave the vision of Israel scattered as sheep having no shepherd.
  - 3) At the command to put Micah in jail, he said, "If you ever return in peace, the LORD has not spoken by me." And he said, "Take heed, all you people!" 1King 22:26-28
- f. Jeremiah was opposed by many false prophets.
  - 1) "And the LORD has **sent** to you all His servants the prophets, rising early and sending them, but you have **not** listened nor inclined your ear to hear." Jer. 25:4
  - 2) "To heed the words of My servants the prophets whom I **sent** to you, both rising up early and sending them (but you have **not** heeded)." Jer. 26:5
  - 3) "For I have **not sent** them," says the LORD, "yet they prophesy a lie in My name, that I may drive you out, and that you may perish, you and the prophets who prophesy to you." Jer. 27:15

- 4) “Then the prophet Jeremiah said to Hananiah the prophet, “Hear now, Hananiah, the LORD has **not sent** you, but you make this people trust in a lie.” Jer. 28:15
- 5) “For they prophesy falsely to you in My name; I have **not sent** them, says the LORD.” Jer. 29:9
- 6) “The prophet who has a dream, let him tell a dream; And he who has My **word**, let him speak My **word faithfully**. What is the chaff to the wheat?" says the LORD.” Jer. 23:28

3. The New Testament is equally clear on the matter of false prophets.

- a. The spirit of God will always be scriptural, not the author of confusion. 1Cor. 14:13
- b. There are many other lying spirits, spirits of error. 1Jn. 4:6
- c. They are manifested through false prophets and teachers, self-willed and sensual. 2Pet. 2:1-3, 10, 14-15

\* “But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their

judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber...”

- d. Paul tells Timothy, “Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,” 1Tim. 4:1
- f. Paul tells Timothy people with itching ears are attracted to false doctrine. 2Tim. 4:3-4
- g. Paul tells Titus that heretic to be rejected after the second time, being warped and self-condemned. Titus 3:10-11

***The command was to test the spirits of doctrine is taught!***

## II. The clear test of the spirit. vs. 2-3a

- A. The true test of the Holy Spirit is a matter of revelation. vs. 2a
  - \* “By this you know the Spirit of God.”
  - 1. The knowledge of the Spirit of God is known by being a child of God.
    - a. The word again is “gnosko”, knowledge by personal experience.
    - b. The quest of the believer is to verify the Spirit of God as the source behind what is being taught.
    - c. The standard is not feelings, emotions or mystical gibberish.
  - 2. The Spirit of God, refers to the third person of the Holy Spirit.

- a. He is called the Spirit of Truth.
  - b. He is in the believer by the new birth. Jn. 14:16-18
  - c. He testifies of Jesus, not Himself. Jn. 14:26
  - d. He guide and show things to come. Jn. 16:7, 13
  - e. He glorify Christ. Jn. 16:14
  - f. That is why Jesus said it was expedient that He go away, so that the Holy Spirit would come, otherwise we would be defenseless. Jn. 16:7
3. The believer has the Holy Spirit.
- a. “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father.” Rom. 8:14-15
  - b. We are sealed with the spirit of promise, the earnest (arrabon), the identifying mark, deposit or engagement ring of our inheritance til the purchased possession in our hearts. Eph. 1:13-14; 2Cor. 1:22
- B.** The acid test of the Spirit of God regards the nature of the first coming of Jesus. vs. 2b
- \* “Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God.”
- 1. The test is inclusive of all spirits.
    - a. No one can say can be the exception.

- b. The phrase “by this you know” is an imperative, this is the way you know.
  - c. The word confess “homologeō” means to say the same thing as another.
  - d. All spirits have to agree with the word of God about Jesus. 2Tim. 3:16-17
2. The agreed confession regarding the Incarnation is the heart of the issue.
- \* John has offered many tests, doctrinal, moral and social, but this is the heart of all tests!
- a. Jesus as we have seen is the human name of the Messiah.
    - 1) Gabriel gave to it to Mary. Matt. 1:21
    - 2) It means Yahweh is salvation.
    - 3) It affirms His humanity, He had a human birth and earthly existence.
  - b. Christ is the title of God’s anointed, “Christos” the anointed of God.
    - 1) It indicates His deity, the promised Messiah.
    - 2) One person with two natures!
  - c. The word come “erchomai” is in the perfect tense, not only that he inhabited a body of flesh but that it has become his permanent possession, the Gnostics denied.
    - 1) Denial can be direct or mere misrepresentation of Christ!
    - 2) The Vulgate says, “Every spirit that separates Jesus from the Christ is not

- of God.” (Irenaeus, Tertullian, Augustine)
3. The testimony of the Jews reveals they believed the Messiah to come was to be the Son of God Incarnate by the prophets.
    - a. “Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that **God** was His Father, making Himself equal with **God**.” Jn. 5:18
    - b. “But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, “I put You under oath by the living **God**: Tell us if You are the Christ, the **Son of God!**” Matt. 26:63
    - c. “You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the **Son of God**, come down from the cross.” Matt. 27:40
  4. The testimony of Paul is no different.
    - a. Paul emphatically pointed both humanity and deity out in the opening of Romans, “Which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was **born of the seed of David according to the flesh, and declared to be the Son of God** with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.” Rom. 1:2-4

- b. “A body You have prepared for me.” Heb. 10:5c
- C. The failure to pass the acid test confirms the spirit to be a false spirit. vs. 3a
- \* “And every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God.”
1. The all inclusiveness is marked again by the word “every spirit”, emphatic.
    - a. Every person saying they are speaking for God is subject to the acid test.
    - b. Every person speaking can be judged to see if the spirit and they are from God.
    - c. No person speaking by the Spirit can call Jesus accursed. 1Cor. 12:3
  2. The criteria is the same as verse two.
    - a. The person who does not confess Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God.
    - b. The word confess “homologeō”, like in verse two means to say the same thing.
    - c. The word come “erchomai” again is in the perfect tense, not only that he inhabited a body of flesh, but that it has become his permanent possession.
      - 1) In the beginning was the word. Jn 1:1
      - 2) The word was made flesh, and dwelt among us,.... Jn 1:14

- 3) “Who being in the form of God, He did not consider it robbery to be equal with God.” Phil. 2:6  
 \* Being is an antecedent condition, He was God before He came, while He was on earth and after He left!
- 4) “But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always **lives** to make intercession for them.” Heb. 7:24-25
- 4) Jesus is the God-Man, the only mediator between God and man.  
2Tim. 2:5
- d. The purpose of His coming was to be the propitiation for the entire world.
- 1) He became sin for us. 2Cor. 5:21
  - 2) He justified us before God and made peace with God. Rom. 5:1-2
  - 3) He tasted death for every man and destroyed he who had the power of death. Heb. 2:9, 14
  - 4) He is the only way and name to reach God the Father. Jn. 14:6; Acts 4:12
  - 5) Paul says, “But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman made’ under the law, to redeem them that were

- under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.” Gal 4:4-5
3. The Gnostics were not of God.
- a. Their name comes from the word the Greek word “gnosis” to know.
  - b. Knowledge was key to their religion there were at least three groups.
    - 1) They were called “Docetae” from the word “dokeo”, to seem or appear and denied Christ had a human body
    - 2) A sub-group believed He had a body, but denied that it was material.
    - 3) The Cerinthians declared that Jesus and Christ were distinct.
      - a) Jesus was an ordinary man, the son of Joseph and Mary
      - b) Christ was a spirit of power from God that descended upon him at his baptism and left him at the crucifixion prior to his death
  - d. The Cerinthian Gnostics had a twisted theology.
    - 1) They believed all matter was evil
    - 2) That knowledge was superior to faith.
    - 3) They boasted of special revelation “gnosis” by climbing up the emanations to God
    - 4) They believed that the world was created by one of these aeons that radiated out from God, becoming so distant and separated from God that it

had no connection with God and was responsible for creation.

### **Illustration**

Ireneaus the second century church father gave his in depth analysis of why God was in Christ.

“Irenaeus described the work of Christ under various aspects. The premise is always the reality of the divinity and humanity of the Savior. Only upon this basis could he furnish certain deliverance and deliver the particular race of man...Christ, therefore, became man in order to recapitulate the whole human race in himself...He embraces in himself the entire human race and all human life: “When he became incarnate and was made man, he recapitulated in himself the long line of men, standing surety in compendium for our salvation, so that what we lost in Adam, i.e., our being in the image and likeness of God, this we might receive in Christ Jesus.” (Contemporary Wesleyan Theology, Vol. 2,:342a)

### **Application**

1. The different views of Jesus in His, Anti-Christ.
  - a. That Jesus was the son of Joseph.
  - b. That Jesus was an illegitimate child.
  - c. That Jesus was from the Devil.
  - d. That Jesus was a teacher sent from God.
  - e. That Jesus was a prophet.
  - f. That Jesus was John the Baptist risen from the dead or Elijah.

2. The Jehovah Witness believe Jesus is a created angel, the heresy of Arius, Anti-Christ.
  - a. He was a presbyter in Alexandria (280 A.D.?)
  - b. He declared that Christ is the first of created beings, denying Him deity and the Trinity.
  - c. In 321 A.D. Arius was excluded from the communion of the church.
  - d. In 325 A.D. at the Council of Nicea, Athanasius prevailed over Arius and he and two of his followers were banished to Illyria.
  - e. The teachings of Arius that denied the deity of Jesus Christ, professing that He was created and exalted was condemned.
  - f. At the council at Constantinople in 381 A.D. , the doctrine of the deity of Christ and the Trinity were confirmed and formulated into what is known as the “Nicene Creed”.
  - g. Today we have similar groups embracing this heresy, in Unitarianism, “Jesus Only “ or “Oneness” doctrine and the J.W’s.
3. Mormons fail the acid test about Jesus, Anti-Christ.
  - a. Mormons teach Jesus was half brother to Satan.
  - b. Mormons teach salvation is based on believing in Jesus Christ, as they defined Him contrary to Scripture and continuing membership in the Mormon church of the Latter Days Saint.
  - c. They are deceivers and liars.
4. One of the doctrines of the “faith movement” is that Jesus went down to hell to suffer at the hands of Satan to make payment for sin to Satan, blasphemous.
  - a. They teach we are little gods.

- b. That experience is equal to scriptures and their teaching inspired as prophets, barking in the spirit, drunk in the spirit, etc.
- c. Jim Jones, David Karesh.
- d. “And without controversy great is the **mystery** of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.” 1Tim. 3:16  
\* Col.1:16; 2:9-10; Heb. 1:4
- e. “We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one. And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is **the true God** and eternal life.” 1Jn. 5:19-20
- f. A different Jesus from the Scriptures is another gospel and is anathema, Anti-Christ. Gal. 1:6-9
- g. We are to be good Bereans. Acts 17:11

*The clear test of the spirit was based on the first coming of Jesus!*

### III. The confident identity of the spirit. vs. 3b-d

- A. The corrupt spirit is of the Antichrist and must be a matter of proclamation. vs. 3b  
\* “And this is the spirit of the Antichrist.”

- 1. John is not talking about the person of the Antichrist that is coming in the future during the seven years of tribulation.
    - a. John has already mentioned his coming.
    - b. John told them two things about the Antichrist. 1Jn. 2:18a-c
      - 1) That it was the last hour. vs. 18a-b
      - 2) That they had heard the Antichrist is coming. vs. 18c
  - 2. The Old confirm these two truths.
    - a. Jeremiah tells us of Jacob’s trouble. Jer. 30:7
    - b. Daniel gives the 70th week. Dan. 9:27
  - 3. The New Testament taught these two truths.
    - a. Paul says the Anti-christ will declare himself to be god in the temple he builds in Jerusalem. 2Thess. 2:4
    - b. Jesus called this time the abomination of desolation. Matt. 24:15
  - 2. John is talking about the spirit of Antichrist, as we will see.
- B.** The common understanding about the spirit of Antichrist was familiar knowledge to them. vs. 3c-d  
\* “Which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.”
- 1. John has already stated earlier regarding the spirit of Antichrist. 1Jn. 2:18d-e
    - a. “Even now many antichrists have come.”  
\* Antiochus Epiphany, Nero.

- b. “By which we know that it is the last hour.”
  - \* Note, the spirit, Hitler, Stalin, Hussein.
- 2. John told them the spirit of Antichrist was already in the world.
  - a. All rejecting the Scriptural view of Jesus.
  - b. All making Jesus less than the testimony of Scripture.
  - c. The placing of the word “already” at the end of the final sentence makes it emphatic about the presence of the Antichrist spirit. “even now”
- 3. The Apollinarians.
  - a. Denied the total human nature of Christ in the latter part of the fourth century.
  - b. Apollinaris was a distinguished bishop of Laodicea in Asia Minor who adopted the distinction between the tricotome of man
    - 1) Man had a body, “soma”.
    - 2) Man had soul, “psuche”.
    - 3) Man had a spirit, “psuche”.
  - c. He accepted Jesus had the first two, body and soul, but denied the rational spirit, believing the Divine Logos took its place and supplied the human intelligence.
  - d. He therefore could not accept two natures in one person, therefore, they professed that reason in man is part of the divine logos.

- f. Making the only difference between God and man in intelligence, quantitative.
- g. He was condemned by the Council of Constantinople in 381 A.D. of Laodicea
- 4. The Nestorians.
  - a. Nestorius was bishop of Constantinople in the early part of the fifth century and he rejected Apollinarinaism.
  - b. He objected to the phrase “Mother of God” given to Mary by the monks.
  - c. He denied the two fold nature of Christ.
  - d. He declared the “Logos” indwelt the man much like the Spirit indwells the believer
  - e. He said the divine person of Christ was not subject to birth through Mary, that a human person suffered for the salvation of man, while the divine person did not.
  - f. Nestorius did not believe in the God-Man, but in a God bearing man who brought about salvation while excluding the divine nature from the plan and execution of salvation.
  - g. In 431 A.D. Nestorius was banished at the Synod of Ephesus.
- 5. The Eutychians.
  - a. Eutyches was kind of an overzealous Cyrillian who overreacted to Nestoriansim and carried the deification of Christ’s humanity to such extremes that he taught Christ’s body was not of the same nature as ours.

- b. Eutyches who headed the monastery in Constantinople taught that the divine and human combined into one resulting in a tertium quid, a third nature.
- c. He insisted so much on keeping the two natures separate that he sacrificed the oneness of Christ's person and the human nature of Christ by deifying the human nature and body of Christ.
- d. They were often called Monophysites by reducing the two natures into one.
- e. It turned to teaching Christ had but one will, which would constitute but one nature, called the Monothelite doctrine.
- f. He was condemned at the council of Chalcedon in 451 A.D.
- g. In 681 A. D. at the Council of Constantinople, at the sixth Ecumenical council, the doctrine was established.
- h. This is the teaching of the Unification Church, etc.

### **Illustration**

John Dewey was one of the most influential of all, born in 1859 and die in 1952. One put it this way, "John Dewey became America' most influential humanistic educator. He refined James's pragmatic philosophy and combined it with all of the previous humanistic movements and made them into his so called progressive education, otherwise known as instrumentalism. Dewey's new brand of secular

education became the instrument through which Western mankind was thoroughly humanized. By the beginning of the twentieth century Western man was confident of his ability, quite independent of reliance on or assistance from any supernatural power, to solve all of his problems and attain the goal of inevitable universal perfection."

\* The "Humanist Manifesto II" was molded after John Dewey's "Humanist Manifest" of 1933 and it attacks God, the Bible and any life of faith of orthodox Christianity, listen to just a few quotes. "Promise of immortal salvation or fear of eternal damnation are both illusory and harmful," they should be condemned. They perform a disservice to the human species because "they distract humans from present concerns, from self-actualization and from rectifying social injustices." it warned. The manifesto asserted in a hollow way that the good life is here and now. In deed, "reason and intelligence are the most effective instruments that mankind possesses." (A Contemp. Wesleyan Theology:227)

\* Few have escaped the influential corruption of humanism in America, this is the spirit of Anti-Christ!

### **Application**

**1.** The bottom line is what you say and believer about Jesus, the ultimate result is that he that denies the Son the same forfeits the Father. 1Jn. 2:21-23, 26; 3:23

\* "Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is **antichrist** who denies the Father and the Son."

2. Jesus not only came in flesh the first time by John says He is coming in flesh a second time and is very stern about what is taught and believed about Jesus.

2Jn. 1:7-11

\* “For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. **This is a deceiver and an antichrist.** Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward. Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.”

2Jn. 7-11

3. Jesus said false prophets are wolves in sheeps clothing. Matt. 7:15; 24:4-5, 11, 24

4. Paul tells the Thessalonians to test all things.

1Thess. 5:20-21

- a. They had been deceived in thinking the Day of the Lord had come. 2Thess. 2:2
- b. Examine yourselves.... 2Cor. 13:5-6
- c. Paul warns and prophesied about the deception by the elders, speaking perverse things. Acts 20:28-30
  - 1) The word perverse “diastrepho”, means to distort or corrupt.
  - 2) They would do it to draw disciples after themselves, as the Gnostics.

d. It is Spiritual warfare against principalities, power, dominion of darkness. Eph. 6:12

5. The confession that every person has to agree with and confess is the one Peter made at Caesarea Philippi, as the Father revealed it to him, “You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God”. Matt. 16:13-19

- a. This is the orthodox view of Jesus!
- b. The word orthodox is made up of two words. “ortho” that means right or correct, the second “doxa” which means opinion.
- c. Together these words convey the right or correct truth about Jesus as opposed to heresy or “heterodoxy” that is contrary to the norm of Scripture, He was the God-Man.

***The confident identity of the spirit was familiar knowledge!***

### Conclusion

John has commanded the believer to examine the spirit of all teaching to confirm it is the Spirit of God, not the spirit of Anti-Christ.

- I. The command to test the spirits of doctrine is taught!
- II. The clear test of the spirit was based on the First Coming of Jesus!
- III. The confident identity of the spirit was familiar knowledge!