Test the Spirits
1 John 4:1-6

Matthew 24:3-14, 23-25

1 John 4:1-6

Discerning spiritual truth from error:

1. Test the spirits (v. 1)

2 Corinthians 11:3-4

“test” = *dokimazo* (to rigorously examine; test for genuineness)

1 Timothy 4:1

2. Recognize the spirits (v. 2-3)

_The “Jesus” of the spirit of antichrist:_

Jehovah’s Witnesses: Michael, the Archangel, the first creation of God. Came to Earth as man, died on a stake, and rose as a spirit.

Mormonism (L.D.S.): Spirit brother of Satan; man who evolved to become a god; one god among many gods; the cross is insufficient.

Christian Science: A Divine Idea

Sun Myung Moon: A man who failed; Moon is second coming of Christ to unite the world

Bahai: One of nine great world manifestations

Unitarians: A good man mistakenly deified by his followers

Freemasonry: A moral teacher; no better than Buddha, Confucius, Moses or Mohammed

Scientology: Jesus was a false dream implanted in our minds before birth

Spiritists: Advanced Medium in 6th sphere of the astrological projection

Unity: A man who perfected a divine idea

Rosicrucians: A manifestation of Cosmic Consciousness


Islam: Only a prophet; God has no son.

Jude 3

3. Be confident in the true Spirit (v. 4)

“overcome” = *Nikao* (to win a victory; to overcome)

Philippians 4:13

4. Trust those inspired by the Spirit (v. 5-6)

2 Timothy 3:16-17