



Series: 1 John

Lesson: 11. Assurance in Spirit & Truth

Passage: 1 John 3:19–4:6

**STRONGLY Recommended Reading: 1 John (weekly) & Gospel of John
(at least once during our study)**

- **Assuring Our _____ . (3:19–24)**
 - Continues from last section by saying loving the brethren gives us evidence of genuine _____ .
 - We may still have guilty _____ at times, but God will provide the assurance we need.
 - Nonetheless, our _____ with God can be broken by sin.
 - This is why our confidence our prayers will be answered positively is related to our _____ (cf. 5:14–15).

- To be ultimately pleasing to God (His commandment), we should be:
 - Believing in the name of His Son Jesus Christ (cf. John 1:12; 3:18; 20:31).
 - Loving one another (cf. John 13:34; 15:12).

- More interplay between theology, obedience, & love for the brethren!

- Faithful obedience is true of those who are mutually _____ with God.

- The _____ is ultimately the One Who assures people that their salvation is real, but He does so by pointing to these factors.

- Testing the _____. (4:1–6)
 - We need to test to see who's _____.
 - “Behind every statement is a spirit.”
 - We need to be Bereans (cf. Acts 17:11).

John 7:24 – “Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.”

- These commands are everyone’s responsibility!
- False teachers are not unusual; they’re the norm.
- The test for antichrists (cf. 2:18, 22): _____
 - People need to confess, not merely acknowledge.
- Nonetheless, we have _____ them.
- The key contrast comes down to who _____ to whom.

John 8:47 – “He who is of God hears the words of God; for this reason you do not hear them, because you are not of God.”

1 Cor. 2:14 – But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.

What Do We Do with These Truths?

1. We should be confident in our salvation, but only if that confidence comes from what _____ says it should.

2. Don't accept _____ for true Christianity.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What are some false sources of confidence people find for their salvation? How would the Spirit combat those in genuine believers?

2. Why is it so easy to be fooled by 'counterfeit Christianity'? How do we defend ourselves from this?

3. How does this passage help you understand what Jesus means when He says He is looking for worshippers "in spirit and truth" (John 4:23–24)?

4. How does knowing we have overcome false teachers (and their source) help us when we deal with them now?

Blanks: Hearts, salvation, consciences, sin, obedience, abiding, Holy Spirit, Spirits, genuine, Christology, overcome, listens, God's Word, counterfeits