

## When It Comes To False Teaching And False Prophets Remember This . . .

## Our Enemy Is Relentless And Deceptive . . . So Don't Be NAIVE.

**1 John 4:1 (NLT)** Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world.

**2 Timothy 4:3-4 (NLT)** For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear. <sup>4</sup> They will reject the truth and chase after myths.

#### It's Always About <u>JESUS</u> . . . So Stay Focused.

1 John 4:2-3 (NLT) This is how we know if they have the Spirit of God: If a person claiming to be a prophet acknowledges that Jesus Christ came in a real body, that person has the Spirit of God.

3 But if someone claims to be a prophet and does not acknowledge the truth about Jesus, that person is not from God. Such a person has the spirit of the Antichrist, which you heard is coming into the world and indeed is already here.

# <u>VICTORY</u> Is Assured . . . So Don't Be Discouraged.

**1 John 4:4 (NLT)** But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.

### Whoever People Listen To And <u>OBEY</u> Is Their Master . . . So Don't Be Misled.

1 John 4:5-6 (NLT) Those people belong to this world, so they speak from the world's viewpoint, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup> But we belong to God, and those who know God listen to us. If they do not belong to God, they do not listen to us. That is how we know if someone has the Spirit of truth or the spirit of deception.

**John 10:27 (NLT)** My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

#### 2 Final Thoughts on False Teaching . . .

# Anything Contrary To <u>THE BIBLE</u> Is False Teaching About God.

Acts 17:11 (NLT) And the people of Berea were more openminded than those in Thessalonica, and they listened eagerly to Paul's message. They searched the Scriptures day after day to see if Paul and Silas were teaching the truth.

## Each Generation Of Believers Are Responsible To Be Guardians Of THE TRUTH.

**Psalm 78:4-7 (NLT)** We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the LORD, about his power and his mighty wonders <sup>5</sup> For he issued his laws to Jacob; he gave his instructions to Israel. He commanded our ancestors to teach them to their children, <sup>6</sup> so the next generation might know them— even the children not yet born— and they in turn will teach their own children. <sup>7</sup> So each generation should set its hope anew on God, not forgetting his glorious miracles and obeying his commands.