

Series: Things That Accompany Salvation
Message 11: Sixteen Signs of a True Believer (Part VII)
(2 Cor. 13:5; 1 Jn. 4:1-6)

Hebrews 6:9 But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation.

2 Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?

1 Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

I. The Caution (1 John 4:1)

A. John's Commands (1A&B)

1. A Call to Be Suspicious (1A)

Acts 17:10-12 And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews. 11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. 12 Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.

2. A Call to Scrutinize (1B)

Luke 12:56 Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time?

Luke 14:19 And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them:

1 Thess 2:4 ... not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts.

1 Tim 3:10 let these ... be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.

1 Thess 5:21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

1 Cor 3:13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

1 Peter 1:7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

B. John's Concern (1C)

Matt 24:4-5 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. 5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

1. Their Enumeration

2. Their Designation

3. Their Propagation

II. The Criteria (1 John 4:2-6)

A. A Confession of the Word (2-3)

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

1 John 1:1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;

1. True Teachers Declare the Incarnation

2. False Teachers Deny the Incarnation

B. A Conquering of the World (4-5)

1. True Believers are Victorious over False Teachers

2. False Believer's are Victims of False Teachers

C. A Compatibility with the Witness (6)

CONCLUSION:

Acts 4:13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.