

The Difference Between Good And Bad Theology

Scripture: **1 John 4:1-3**

Series: **Doctrine & Devotion: A Study in the First Epistle of John**

Sunday, September 13, 2015



REDEEMER
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Overview

Unless we test all teaching we hear by the Word, we're in danger of believing the lies of men. We do this by rejecting gullibility and rejecting false teachers.

Corroborating Texts

Acts 17; 1 Timothy 2:5

Discussion Questions

1. What are some false things you've believed? What made them so convincing or seemingly true? How did you come to learn the truth?
2. In order to avoid being gullible, we need to develop the discipline of discernment. What is it that we are actually testing? And what standard do we use?
3. Why was discernment important for John to teach to the recipients of his letter? How should the church use the same principles today?
4. What are possible missteps as we attempt to exercise discernment? [pride, believing we are the ultimate authority, etc.] How should discernment be best practiced in order to avoid those pitfalls?
5. How does John use the term "antichrist" throughout his letter? What specific criteria for testing does John provide in verses 2 and 3 for evaluating false teachers?
6. Why is it important to believe Christ came in the flesh? The ancient heresies of Gnosticism and Docetism denied the humanity and/or divinity of Jesus. While those heresies were "settled" during the ancient councils, what modern day teachers and philosophies propose the same false ideas?
7. Joe called us to believe, know and defend the Truth. Is it possible to do this without being divisive?