

When Christ Enters In A Champion To Trust 1 John 4.1-6

[So far in 1 John we have discovered that there is:]

- **[A Conversion To Choose** – To be a Christian one must be born again, saved.]
- **[A Consecration To Develop** – To be conformed to the image of Christ in our mind.]
- **[A Cleansing to Receive** – The Amazing Forgiveness of God. The cleansing blood of Christ.]
- **[A Commandment To Keep** – The Honor of Obeying Our Lord!]
- **[A Compassion To Show** – His Unconditional and Incomprehensible Love]
- **[A Character to Develop** – To develop and live out the Character of our Lord Jesus Christ in our world. This is to master this Christian life.]
- **[A Confusion To Understand (1 John 2)** – Deceivers and false Churches all around us.]
- **[A Confidence To Hold** – The Holy Spirit in us gives us Confidence in Christ.]

[Last week we looked at the fact of a Quickened Spirit within every born again believer. That Quickened Spirit gives us confidence and assurance in our salvation and our Spiritual Walk.]

[Back in 1 John 2 we study the Confusion that born again Christians need to understand. Our text was a part of that study. But our text today gives us part of the solution to that problem in our Christian Journey.]

[Read Text]

Our focus today is,

1 John 4:4 - Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

Lets all read that in unison together,

1 John 4:4 - *Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.*

We overcome the deceivers around us “*because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.*”

Did you catch that Christian?

The Word of God declares,

1 John 4:4 - *Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.*

We over come the confusion of this world and its religious systems, and the worlds deceiving friendships, and the worlds false modern translations of the Bible which are the devils tools; “. . . **because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.**”

We are reminded in our text of,

A. The Fact of our Spiritual Struggle (vs 1) - *Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.*

The Biblical Warnings – Back in Chapter two we looked at many of these warnings. By way of reminder we will consider,

Deuteronomy 13:1–5 - ***If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder, ²And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them; ³Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. ⁴Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him. ⁵And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn you away from the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to thrust thee out of the way which***

the LORD thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee.

Matthew 7:15–16 - Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. ¹⁶Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

B. The Faces In Our Spiritual Struggle (vs 1)

1 John 4:1–3 - Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. ²Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: ³And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

Those who would deceive us include,

- **The Devil**

1 Peter 5:8–9 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: ⁹**Whom resist stedfast in the faith,** knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

**We must steadfastly resist the devil by standing on the Word of God.
That is what the Word of God means “. . . by in the faith . . .”**

The Devil is one of our deceivers

- **The Demons**

2 Corinthians 11:13–15 - For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. ¹⁴**And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.** ¹⁵**Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.**

These present themselves as Pastors, Elders, Deacons, Sunday School teachers teaching doctrines contrary to the Word of God.

- **The Deceivers**

The Devil and Demons don't usually show up themselves. Instead they work through people.

These peoples are deceivers and deceivers are often deceived themselves. They really believe the false teachings they are trying to teach you.

- They really believe their false bible, a modern translation, is the Word of God too.
- They really believe their false philosophies and religious traditions are true even though they stand in stark contrast to the clear Word of God.
- They really believe they are doing God's work while they are really doing the Devils work.

These are deceived deceivers.

***Proverbs 14:12** - There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.*

C. The Champion We Must Trust

***1 John 4:4** - Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.*

1. The Presence That Overcomes (vs 4)

Always remember that you are smart enough, you are not strong enough, you are not crafty enough to overcome the devil and his wiles all on your own.

- **We overcome the confusion of this world because our Lord Jesus Christ is in us.** Therefore you must stay close to our loving Lord, listening to His Word.
- **We overcome our incredibly powerful adversary, the Devil, because we rely on the strength of our Lord Jesus Christ in us.**

*1 John 4:4 - Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: **because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.***

Our Lord Jesus Christ is Almighty God.

2. Recognize that they are Deceivers

1 John 4:2–3 - Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: ³And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

Not Confessing is not the same a professing. Someone might say I belong to Jesus, but those are only words, what they really mean is revealed in what they actually believe and do. What are they trying to teach about the Lord Jesus Christ.

If they Teach anything other than what is contained in the Word of God then they reveal that they do not believe what God says in His Word.

The word **Confess** means to agree with. When you agree with God then you will say the same thing God says. God's Word is the revelation of God given to us. God never changes.

To **Profess** something means you just say it, whether you believe it or not. There are a lot of professors in our world.

3. Know the difference between Truth and Error

*1 John 4:4–6 - Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he **that is in you,** than he that is in the world. ⁵**They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them.** ⁶**We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us;** he that is not of God heareth not us. **Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.***

Understand that just because there is a religion in this world does not mean it is of the truth, it can be in error.

We must know the difference between truth and error.

1 John 4:4 - Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

The answer to this world confusion and deception is,

1 John 4:4 - Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

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