1 John 4.1-6 He Who is In Us is **Greater than He Who is** in the World

Prayer Before Reading Scripture

Shine within our hearts, loving Master, the pure light of Your divine knowledge and open the eyes of our minds that we may comprehend the message of Your Gospel. Instill in us also reverence for Your blessed commandments, so that having conquered all sinful desires, we may pursue a spiritual life, thinking and doing all those things that are pleasing to You. For You, Christ our God, are the light of our souls and bodies, and to You we give glory together with Your Father who is without beginning and Your all holy, good, and life giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God,

and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.

Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.' "

"If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: "He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.' "

Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.' "

Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."

Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.' Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

Subtle Perversion of the Truth

- 1. God does not exist.
- 2. Only material things exist.
- 3. The universe and living things were not created, they happened through natural random processes.
- 4. Religion is just a crutch.
- 5. The Bible is just the writings of humans.
- 6. Jesus was just a man.
- 7. There is no such thing as Satan or demons.
- 8. Its OK to do whatever you want as long as you don't harm other people

Subtle Perversion of the Truth

- 10. Christmas is about festive decorations, being with family, eating, giving and receiving presents, and listening to stories about Santa Claus.
 11. Christians are ignorant bigoted people
 12. People who teach against gay lifestyle or try to get them to change are hateful.
 13. There is no hell.
- 14. There is no such thing as truth—truth is relative. I have my truth and you have yours.

They are of the world. Therefore they speak *as* of the world, and the world hears them.

We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error. Questions? Comments?