

## **False Teachers on the Loose**

1 John 4:1-6

**Christians are commanded to test every teaching. (vs. 1a)**

**Christians should test every teaching for good reason. (1b)**

**Christians are given instructions on how to test. (vs. 2-3)**

**Three uses of the term “anti-christ.”**

1. The capital “A” Anti-christ will arise as the wicked world Ruler of the end times.
2. False teachers called “anti-christs” will arise at any time of history.
3. The phrase “the spirit of anti-christ” refers to demonic spirits who mislead people through teachers who distort and diminish the truth about Christ.

**Christians who stick to the truth are promised ultimate victory (vs. 4-6)**

**Testing requires four types of tests:**

1. The Doctrinal Test – Examine every teaching by the Word of God. (1 Tim. 4:6)
2. The Personal Test – Examine the teacher’s personal life in character, behavior, motivation and lifestyle. (1 Tim. 4:16)
3. The Spiritual Test – Examine the origin of the teacher or teaching. (1 John 4:1)
4. The Evidential Test – Examine the fruit or outcome of the teacher or teaching. (Matt. 7:20)