

IT'S REAL--9

“It's REAL Because it Demands SCRUTINIZING The Truth”

1 John 4:1-7

Introduction. _____

I. FIRST, THERE IS THE COMMAND TO SCRUTINIZE THE SPIRITS (1 John 4:1).

A. First, notice how the command is to be a pointed one (4:1b) “... *try the spirits* ...”

B. Secondly, note how this command is to be a personal one (4:1b) “... *try* ...”

C. Thirdly, consider how this command is to be a perpetual one (4:1c) “... *because many false prophets are gone out into the world.*”

II. SECONDLY, THERE IS A CRITERION FOR SCRUTINIZING THE SPIRITS (1 John 4:2-3).

A. First, notice this criterion is concerned with awareness (4:2a). “*Hereby, know ye the Spirit of God* ...”

B. Secondly, note this criterion is concerned with admission (4:2b).

1. First, note the substance of this admission (4:2b-3a).

2. Secondly, consider the _____ of the admission (4:3b).

III. THIRDLY, THERE IS A _____ FOR SCRUTINIZING THE SPIRITS (1 John 4:4-6).

A. First, there is the _____ of the children of God (4:4).

B. Secondly, there is the _____ of the children of God (4:5-6).

1. First, notice the _____ of false prophets (4:5).

2. Secondly, note the _____ of Christian teachers (4:6).

CONCLUSION: Note some admonitions relating to scrutinizing the truth and error:

1. First, we must _____ the _____ of spiritual deception isn't something that is new in our time.

2. Secondly, we must _____ the _____ that the Bible is the final authority and all we need.

3. Thirdly, we must _____ that the _____ and work of Jesus are eternally divine

1. Listen _____ to the one who is preaching or teaching.

2. Look _____ at those who are following them.