



YouTube

Everyone wants a personal security not built on self-deception.

(Purpose of 1 John)

Everyone wants a simple, stable security

We know we live in Him because of the Spirit He gave us.

1. God has given you His Spirit to assure you.

We know...



1 John 4:13-14



2. The Spirit is recognizable by His spirit. (This requires discernment.)



3. The Spirit's spirit brings clarity.

1 John 4:1 - "Don't let anyone lead you astray."



A photograph of a snow-capped mountain peak, likely Mount Everest, under a cloudy sky. The image is overlaid with a dark horizontal band containing the text "SECURE STANDING" in a white, serif font. The text is enclosed within a red rectangular border.

SECURE
STANDING



*To succeed in life, you need
two things: ignorance and
confidence.*
- Mark Twain

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Everyone wants a simple, stable security

3 attempts at "simple and stable"

1. Nominalism
2. Moralism
3. Mysticism

3 attempts at "simple and stable"

1. Nominalism Name can be in name only
2. Moralism Tends toward legalism and redefinition, it leaves the user for the name, and denies importance of motivation- the heart
3. Mysticism Isn't self-serving, never a self-description, words for no one, doesn't play well with others, can't be shared

3 attempts at "simple and stable"

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3 attempts at "simple and stable"

1. Nominalism

Name can be in name only.

2. Moralism

Tends toward legalism and redefinition. It leaves the inner life the same, and denies importance of motivation- the heart.

3. Mysticism

Isn't self-proving, prone to self-deception, works for so few, doesn't play well with others, can't be shared

1. God has given you His Spirit to assure you.

We know...

1 John 3:10 - This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not love his brother.

1 John 3:14 - We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death.

1 John 3:18-20 - Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence whenever our hearts condemn us.

1 John 3:24 - Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

1 John 4:13 - We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

God's assuring presence both ways:

He gave us His Spirit

&

we abide in the Holy Spirit.

(remain, live in)



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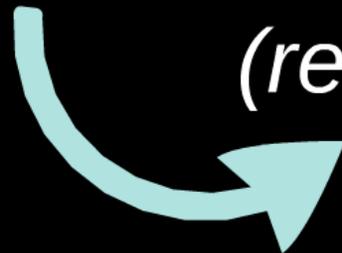
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But how do I know if I have God's Spirit?

Insecurity - What if I can't feel it or know what it is?

Deception - How do I recognize the Spirit in others?

1 John 4:12

No one has ever seen God



1 John 4:1 ...do not believe every spirit...because many false prophets have gone out...

2. The Spirit is recognizable by His spirit.

(This requires discernment.)



The Holy Spirit's identity and presence are authenticated by His *spirit*.

Just like a person's persona:
It isn't their being, but it reveals their being.

Their persona = character, culture, values, emotion, purpose, desire, etc.

Tests for real faith

Characteristics of the Spirit's *spirit*.
They all go back to Jesus.

1. Confesses Jesus
2. Obeys God's commands
3. Loves Christian brothers and sisters

The Spirit's spirit and the Word's word (Jesus' actions and commands) are in perfect unity.

Testing anyone's "Spirit":
(yours or another's)

1. Does this Spirit's spirit confess Jesus as He is?
2. Does this Spirit's spirit do what is right according to Jesus?
3. Does this spirit love Jesus in people? Does it love real Christians? Or is it like Cain - full of hatred towards real children of God?

dis·cern·ment

/di'sɜrnmənt/ 

noun

1. the ability to judge well.
"an astonishing lack of discernment"
2. (in Christian contexts) perception in the absence of judgment with a view to obtaining spiritual direction and understanding.
"without providing for a time of healing and discernment, there will be no hope of living through this present moment without a shattering of our common life"

 Translations, word origin, and more definitions

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3. The Spirit's spirit brings clarity.

1 John 4:1 - "Don't let anyone lead you astray."

We can know that we live in Him.

We can escape spiritual deception with the Spirit's clarity.

We can be released into truthful faith, service and love.

We can know that we live in Him.

We can escape spiritual deception with the Spirit's clarity.

We can be released into fruitful faith, service and love.

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