



## “Truth and Error”

1 John 4:1-6

Sunday, November 22, 2020

Pastor John Foss

**Question of the Day:** *What was your most memorable Thanksgiving?  
Was there anything special that happened (good or bad)?*

### I. John calls us to be \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 1)

- Don't be gullible, don't be easily swayed. There is \_\_\_\_\_ and there are \_\_\_\_\_.
- The Gospel in a Pluralist Society (Newbiggin)
- “For the time will come when people will not put up with sound teaching. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.” (2 Timothy 4:3-4)

### II. John reminds us that \_\_\_\_\_ matters. (v. 2-3)

- “In these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being.” (Hebrews 1:2-3)
- We all have doctrine. Where does your doctrine come from? Would you stake your \_\_\_\_\_ on it?

### III. Christians are called to be \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 4-6)

- Those churches that take the Bible for what it says, who are under the authority of the Word of God, who tell people the truth according to God's Word, are those churches that grow and flourish.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ the culture gets, the \_\_\_\_\_ the light of Christ will shine, in grace and in truth.
- “Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)

### IV. To think and pray about as you apply God's Word to your life:

- How spiritually discerning am I? Am I spiritually gullible? What can I do to grow in discernment?
- What kind of doctrine am I living by? Am I willing to stake my life on that doctrine?
- How does the doctrine that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh give me confidence in my identity as a beloved child of God?
- How does knowing that He who is in me is greater than he who is in the world help me to stand firm on unpopular doctrinal issues?

### *Next Sunday...*

*Happy Thanksgiving! Next Sunday,  
Nov. 29, we enter the season of  
Advent with a focus on Hope.  
“Anchored” (1 John) resumes in  
January.*

darker, brighter

distinct

life

doctrine

truth, lies

discerning

**Answers:**