

***“Don’t Believe Everything You Hear”***

***March 8th, 2026***

**1 John - Part 7**

**Pastor Chris Rollins**

“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”  
Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”  
Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not  
revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven.”  
Matthew 16:15-17 (NIV)

“Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said.  
“This shall never happen to you!” Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get  
behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have  
in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”  
Matthew 16:22-23 (NIV)

**There are lots of false messages today about  
Jesus, so test everything you hear!**

### **1. Be Careful.**

“Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see  
whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone  
out into the world.” 1 John 4:1 (NIV)

“This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.”  
1 John 4:6b (NIV)

“My dear friends, don’t believe everything you hear. Carefully weigh and  
examine what people tell you. Not everyone who talks about God comes  
from God. There are a lot of lying preachers loose in the world.”  
1 John 4:1 (MSG)

“Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. So it is no wonder  
that his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness.”  
2 Corinthians 11:14-15 (NLT)

## **2. Be Discerning.**

**How Do We Test What We Hear?**

### **- The Jesus Test.**

“This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that  
acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but  
every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the  
spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is  
already in the world.” 1 John 4:2-3 (NIV)

“Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their  
humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds  
the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives  
were held in slavery by their fear of death. For surely it is not angels he  
helps, but Abraham’s descendants. For this reason he had to be made  
like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a  
merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make  
atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when  
he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.”  
Hebrews 2:14-18 (NIV)

### **- The Word Test.**

“You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the  
One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. They are  
from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and  
the world listens to them. We are from God, and whoever knows God  
listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is  
how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.”  
1 John 4:4-6 (NIV)

“And we also thank God continually because, when you received the  
word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human  
word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in  
you who believe.” 1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NIV)

“To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my  
teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth,  
and the truth will set you free.” John 8:31-32 (NIV)