

God's Hedges (III)

(1 Thessalonians 5:19-22)

- Job 1:10
 - 1 Th.5:12-18
 - 1 Th.5:19-22

I. Do Not Quench The Spirit, 19

Quench: suppress, stifle

- Nu.11:1-2, of literal fire that died down
- Often metaphorical – Mk.9:48
 - 2 Sm.21:17, David
 - 2 K.22:17, God's wrath
 - S. Solomon, love

Holy Spirit: compared to fire...

- Ac.7:51, resisted
- Ep.4:30, grieved
- 1 Th.5:19, quenched
- Hb.10:29, insulted

Fire extinguishers

- **Water** (the direct approach).
 - Lk.9:49-50; Ep.6:16; Hb.11:34; Dn.3
- **Wet blanket** (smother it)
 - Smoking flax, Mt.12:20
 - Worldliness, Mt.13:22; 2 Tim.4:10
- **Wear it out** (neglect – careless approach)
 - Mt.25:8; 2 Tim.1:6

I. Do Not Quench The Spirit, 19

II. Do Not Despise
Prophecies, 20

Prophecy: inspired utterance, forthtelling

- **Despise:** to regard as nothing, treat with contempt. Rv.22:18-29
 - Hating the Spirit's message. Jer.36
 - Ignoring the Spirit's message. Hb.3:8.
Mt.24:37-39.
 - Neglecting the Spirit's message.
Mt.6:24. Mt.22:5. Hb.2:3.
- 2 Tim.4:3-4

I. Do Not Quench The Spirit, 19

II. Do Not Despise Prophecies, 20

III. Test All Things, 21

Test: of testing coins

- All things. Some avoid spiritual tests.
 - “I don’t argue over the Bible...”
 - “We’ve done this too long to be proven wrong”
 - “Many great names sanction this...”
- What is the divine testing instrument?
 - Dt.13:1-5. 1 K.13
 - 1 Jn.4:1-6

I. Do Not Quench The Spirit, 19

II. Do Not Despise Prophecies, 20

III. Test All Things, 21

IV. Hold Fast
What Is Good, 21

Hold firmly

- Eleazar, 2 Sm.23:9-10
- What is good... (as verse 15)
 - 1 Co.15:2, hold fast
 - Ph.3:12, lay hold of
 - Col.2:19, not holding fast
 - 1 Tim.6:12, lay hold of
 - 2 Tim.1:13, hold fast
 - Hb.3:6, hold fast
 - Rv.3:11, hold fast

I. Do Not Quench The Spirit, 19

II. Do Not Despise Prophecies, 20

III. Test All Things, 21

IV. Hold Fast What Is Good, 21

V. Abstain From Every
Form Of Evil, 22

Abstain: hold from, keep oneself from,
keep away (opposite of *hold fast*)

- Every form of evil (every kind).
 - There are many ways to wrong.
 - Keep away from every form that wickedness may assume (4:3): immorality, retaliation, ingratitude, rejection of prophecy, etc.

Conclusion

1. Jael, Jg.5:25
2. Importance of spiritual hedges
3. Problem is not that a ship is in the water...