

QUESTIONS:

All spiritual activity in the Church must be judged to ascertain whether it originates from God, man or Satan.

HOW WOULD YOU JUDGE SPIRITUAL ACTIVITY? USE THE FOLLOWING HEADINGS.

SCRIPTURAL BASIS
POWER TO WITNESS
INSPIRATION
REPENTANCE
INTERNAL UNCTION
TESTIFY OF JESUS

COMMENT ON THE FOLLOWING LINK:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DDZ-m8ECR3Q>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mhr1_HehXko

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Np_-xKrGpCw

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nvIDROVLJ54>

BENNY HINN

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-N4BZUqcWI>

TODD BENTLEY

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hp0C4IgjA-A>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eNV-5RQiws>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=425DdF-P-yU>

MEGACHURCH FORECLOSURE

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=crdOAsBIY3A>

ANSWERS:

All spiritual activity in the Church must be judged to ascertain whether it originates from God, man or Satan.

THE SCRIPTURES EXHORT US TO :-

[1]. PROVE ALL THINGS

1Thess.5:21 [KJV]

Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

[2]. TEST THE SPIRITS

1John 4:1

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

[3]. EXAMINE THE FRUITS OF PROPHETS

Matt.7:20

Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

The following 6 criteria confirm that the activity is due to the Holy Spirit.

MNEMONIC - "SPIRIT"

SOME POINTS FOR JUDGING SUPERNATURAL ACTIVITY IN THE CHURCH :-

SCRIPTURAL BASIS

POWER TO WITNESS

INSPIRATION

REPENTANCE
INTERNAL UNCTION
TESTIFY OF JESUS
AMPLIFICATION
SCRIPTURAL BASIS

The activity must have a scriptural basis.

The Holy Spirit does not contradict the Word of God. The Holy Spirit leads the Christian into all truth.

John 16:13

"However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth;..."

John 17:17b

"... Your word is truth."

Experience does not supersede the WORD OF GOD. Note that Paul did not justify the preaching of the resurrection by his experience on the Damascus road. He preached the resurrection, "according to the scriptures" (1Cor.15:3).

POWER TO WITNESS

The activity must urge one to be a witness of the gospel.

Acts 1:8

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

One touched by the Holy Spirit, will have boldness to declare the gospel. One of the symbols of the Holy Spirit is wine. Excess wine results in drunkenness and boldness.

When one is filled with the Holy Spirit the consequences are similar, viz :

[1]. DRUNKENNESS

Acts 2:13-15

13 Others mocking said, "They are full of new wine." 14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. 15 "For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day."

[2]. BOLDNESS

Acts 4:13

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.

INSPIRATION

If the activity is due to the Holy Spirit there will be an increased zeal in the following areas:-

1. Prayer
2. Word of God
3. Praise
4. To evangelise
5. Fellowship
6. Fear of God
7. To Give
8. To unite

SEE VITALIZATION OF THE CHURCH UNDER MNEMONIC 'REVIVAL'

The Holy Spirit vitalizes the Church.

Any move of the Holy Spirit in a local Church will result in EDIFICATION.

1Cor.12:7 [NIV]

Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. Edification may be personal or corporate (Note that "tongues" results in personal edification but prophecy brings corporate edification - 1Cor.14:4).

Where edification is personal but detrimental to others, the government of the local church needs to exercise control for the following reasons :-

1. 1Cor.14:32-33

32 And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets, 33 For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

2. Eph.4:3

endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

3. 1Cor.8:13

Therefore if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

4. Rom.15:1

We then who are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

5. 1Cor.14:12

Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church, that you seek to excel.

6. To overcome selfishness.

1Cor.14:17

For you indeed give thanks well, but the other is not edified.

7. 1Cor.14:26

How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.

8. Paul advocated control.

1Cor.14:27

If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret.

9. 1Cor.14:40

REPENTANCE

The activity must draw one closer to God.

This is a "change in mind and direction".

John 16:8

"And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:"

The Holy Spirit draws people close to God. There is increased desire for holiness and a separation from wordly entanglements.

Acts 2:37-38,41

37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" 38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." 41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

This is the sanctifying, transforming work of the Holy Spirit.

INTERNAL UNCTION

The activity must not conflict with the internal witness of the Spirit.

Born Again believers are indwelt by the Holy Spirit (Rom.8:9; 1Cor.3:16). The Spirit within bears witness or agrees with our spirits as to whether the activity is from Him or not.

1John 2:20,27

20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things.....27 But the anointing

which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all

things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

TESTIFY OF JESUS

The activity must glorify Jesus Christ.

If the supernatural activity is due to the Holy Spirit, it will glorify Jesus for this is one of the main purposes of the Holy Spirit.

John 15:26

"But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me."

John 16:14

"He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you."

Rev.19:10

And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.