

Tests for Genuineness

by A.W. Tozer

A man or a religious demonstration is of God if the leader is a good man, full of the Holy Ghost, and demonstrates moral character.

Scripture: Matthew 7:15

Topics: "Authenticity in Faith", "Spiritual Leadership"

Description

A.W. Tozer emphasizes the importance of identifying genuine spiritual leaders and movements, asserting that true Christianity is rooted in moral integrity and the presence of the Holy Spirit. He outlines two primary tests for genuineness: the character of the leader, who must embody Christ-like qualities, and the moral standards upheld within the movement. Tozer insists that a trustworthy leader is humble, self-sacrificing, and lives a life above reproach, demonstrating a sincere commitment to God. He warns against being swayed by superficial displays of faith or supernatural phenomena, urging believers to seek authenticity in their spiritual leaders.

Transcript

How can we tell whether or not a man or a religious demonstration is of God? The answer is easy to find, but it will take courage to follow the facts as God reveals them to us. The tests for spiritual genuineness are two: First, the leader must be a good man and full of the Holy Ghost. Christianity is nothing if not moral. No tricks of theology, no demonstrations of supernatural wonders, no evidences of blind devotion on the part of the public can decide whether or not God is in the man or the movement.

Every servant of Christ must be pure of heart and holy of life.

While sinless perfection is not likely to be found among even the best of men, still the leader to be trusted is the one who lives as near like Christ as possible and who knows how to repent in sorrow of heart when he sins against his Lord by any act or word. The man God honors will be humble, self-effacing, self-sacrificing, modest, clean living, free from the love of money, eager to promote the honor of God and just as eager to disclaim any credit or praise on his own part. His financial accounts will bear inspection, his ethical standards will be high and his personal life above reproach.

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