

**6-7 DEC 2025**



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**HOW DO I KNOW  
WHAT'S REAL?**

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#Whoami

Me & My Family

# 1 John 4:1-6 (NIV)

## On Denying the Incarnation

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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, <sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup> 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.

# Context



**Author:** Apostle John

**Audience:** Early Christians (AD 85-95)

**Issue:** Early church was facing internal divisions and false teachings about Jesus and His incarnation.

**Goal:**

1. To warn Christians about false prophets and their false teachings
2. To encourage them that they have the Holy Spirit to help

# 1 John 4:1-6 (NIV)

## On Denying the Incarnation

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# How do I know what's real?

## Sermon Outline

Verse 1



### False Facade

*Not everything spiritual is from God*

Verse 2 - 3



### Fact Filter

*Test every measure against Jesus*

Verse 4 - 6



### Fake Free

*Stay Anchored in God so Lies Don't Shake You*

# How do I know what's real?

## Sermon Outline

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*Not everything spiritual is from God*

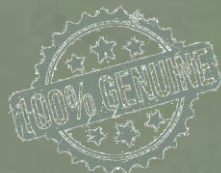
Verse 2 - 3



### Fact Filter

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### Fake Free

*Stay Anchored in God so Lies Don't Shake You.*



# False Facade

*Not everything spiritual is from God*

## 1 John 4:1 (NIV)

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.

- Warning!
- Don't believe everything that sounds spiritual
- Test – validate and cross check
- Why? Because there are MANY false prophets in the world

## Genesis Chapter 3



Trust me, its good for you!

## 3 out of 4 in Singapore cannot identify deepfake content: Cyber Security Agency survey

Sign up now: Get ST's newsletters delivered to your inbox.



Sarah Koh



Follow topic: Cyber security

Published Jul 02, 2025, 11:58 AM

Updated Jul 04, 2025, 03:59 PM

A total of 1,050 respondents aged 15 and above were polled in October 2024 on their attitude towards issues such as cyber incidents and mobile security, and adoption of cyber-hygiene practices.

Nearly 80 per cent said they were confident about identifying deepfakes, citing telltale signs such as suspicious content and unsynchronised lip movements.

But only a quarter of respondents could correctly distinguish between deepfake and legitimate videos when they were put to the test.

Your turn to decide

Real or Fake





**FAKE**



**FAKE**



<https://www.streamline.us/blog/real-vs-ai-images/>

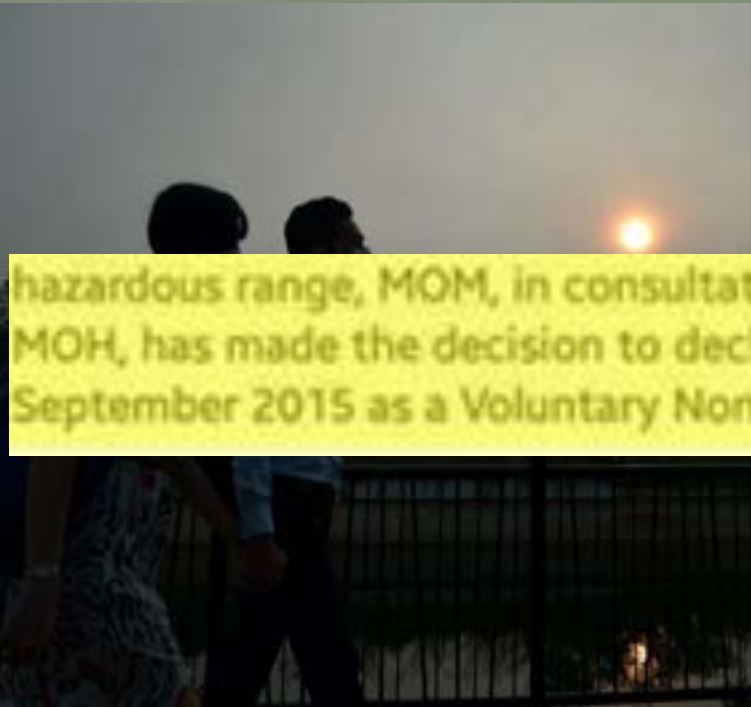


**FAKE**

<https://www.peaceprize.com/psCSL>



# Implication of Fake News



**FAKE**

Ministry of Manpower

This is the press release.. You may directed to [www.mom.gov.sg](http://www.mom.gov.sg) website for press release. No need to reply to this msg.

Following NEA's forecast that the 24-hour PSI for 25 September is in the 'Very Unhealthy' range and may enter the low end of the hazardous range, MOM, in consultation with MOH, has made the decision to declare 25 September 2015 as a Voluntary Non-Work day.


to give a paid day off

half days till 12pm

statutory Boards will tomorrow,

in full days

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE WORK, the MOM website.

 **MINISTRY OF MANPOWER**

CLOSE

 **Singapore Ministry of Manpower**  
Page Liked - 19 mins

**TRUE**

It has come to our attention that a post claiming to be from MOM, regarding the haze, has been circulating (see attached). MOM would like to state that this post is fake and the contents are not true.

While there is no national shutdown of workplaces, employers should not compromise the health and safety of their employees as they continue functioning. This is especially so for those involved in outdoor work. Please refer to <http://www.mom.gov.sg/haze> for haze guidelines and advisory for work.

Members of the public should only use the official MOM website at [www.mom.gov.sg](http://www.mom.gov.sg) for all informational and transactional needs concerning MOM matters or access our official Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/sgministryofmanpower/>.

Thank you.

# Implication of Fake News

The image was not real. It was an AI-generated deepfake.



*Fake image of explosion at Pentagon and how it impacted the markets.*

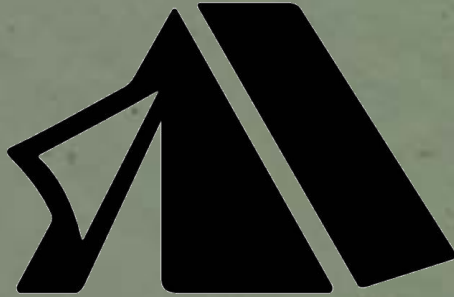
*(Source - The Mint)*

# Implication of Fake News



# Implications of Fake News

Social Cohesion



Censorship / Cover Up



Curbing Misinformation

# Why Do People Believe So Easily?

Human Needs, Deceitful Hearts



**Greed**



**Fear**



**Doubt**



**Passion**

**Jeremiah 17:9** *“The heart is deceitful above all things.....”*

# My Own Experience



change.org Start a petition Browse

Log in Ready for P

## Please Keep Penal Code 377A in Singapore

90,361 have signed

Facebook Email

Share my network

By signing, you will be notified of updates and occasional emails. You can unsubscribe at any time.

**Thank you!** marked this petition to Singapore Government

*(This is a real petition which will be submitted to the PMO and REACH mailboxes when we have attained at least 100K signatures. However, the online petition will remain opened for signing until 24 Sep 18)*

There has been a renewed call by prominent figures recently to challenge and repeal the penal code section 377A in the light of the recent India's Supreme Court's decision on the same issue.



**The Singapore Government heard us!**

Tanya,

It's been so much fun to work with you, and I can't wait to see and hear about all of your company-related successes in your new position! Mary told me you are now the lead marketing specialist at lunch, and I couldn't be happier. No one else is more qualified for this job, and I am confident you will guide us with dignity and kindness.

**[Click here to find out more!](#)**

Your friend and biggest fan,  
Patrick

# How do I know what's real?

## Sermon Outline

Verse 1



### False Facade

*Not everything spiritual is from God*

Verse 2 - 3



### Fact Filter

*Test every measure against Jesus*

Verse 4 - 6



### Fake Free

*Stay Anchored in God so Lies Don't Shake You*

# Information Overload

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Discernment Deficit



# Fact Filter

*Test every measure against Jesus*

## 1 John 4:2-3 (NIV)

<sup>2</sup> 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

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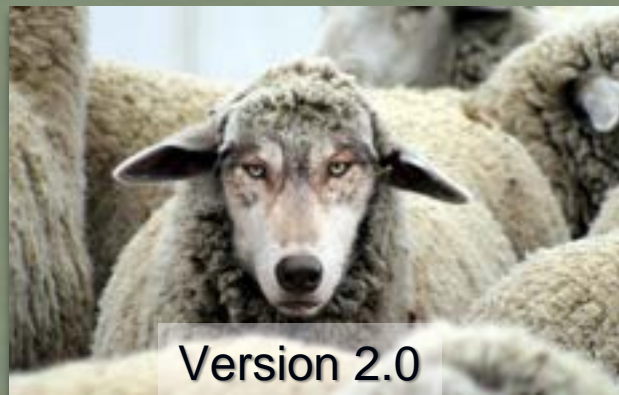
This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

- Jesus incarnation being challenged
- Recognizing God Spirit vs Antichrist Spirit (How)
- Antichrist Spirit already in the world

# Spiritual Fakes

## Matthew 7:15

*Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves.*



*Discernment is not knowing the difference between right and wrong.*

*It is knowing the difference between right and almost right.*

**Charles Spurgeon**



# Devil's Deception

2 Corinthians 11:14

*....Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.*

**Devil's objectives.....**

1. Didn't show up with horns and fire, but came as a serpent
2. Didn't make false accusations about God, but twisted God's words
3. Didn't deny God, but to distort God
4. Doesn't need us to worship him, just worship God less

**....to be LESS real, so we won't have to resist him.**

# How do we recognize God's Spirit?

**Test #1**

**Word  
Test**



**Test #2**

**Spirit  
Test**



**Test #3**

**Community  
Test**



# Scripture References

**Test #1**

**Word  
Test**



**John 17:17**

*“Your Word is truth.”*

**Psalm 119:105**

*“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and  
a light unto my path”*

# Test Questions

**Test #1**

**Word  
Test**



## Discerning Questions

Does it align with Scriptures  
(reputable or verifiable sources?)

Consider entire weight of scriptures  
(cross check with multiple reliable sources?)

# Scripture References

**Test #2**

**Spirit  
Test**



**John 16:13**

*“The Spirit of truth will guide you into all truth.”*

**Matthew 7:16**

*“You will know them by their fruits.”*

# Test Questions

**Test #2**

**Spirit  
Test**



## **Discerning Questions**

Does the spirit honour Jesus (intent and tone)?

What fruits does the Spirit produce (outcome, impact)?

Test #2

# Spirit Test



...Wrong information is not  
just about wrong facts.....

Sometimes it's also about the  
wrong spirit behind the facts.

# Scripture References

Test #3

## Community Test



### Proverbs 15:22

*“Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.”*

### Proverbs 11:14

*“Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety”*

# Test Questions

**Test #3**

## **Community Test**



### **Discerning Questions**

Have I checked with multiple mature believers or subject matter experts?

Is their counsel aligned with scriptures and supported by evidence?

Feedback my blind spots and bring clarity?

# How do we recognize God's Spirit?

**Test #1**

**Word  
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**Test #2**

**Spirit  
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**Test #3**

**Community  
Test**



# Good Enough? Call It A Day?

- ✓ Aware/Mindful
- ✓ Detect lies
- ✓ Spot a fake
- ✓ Avoid the traps



# NO! Christian Living is ...



Detecting lies → Embracing truths

Detect the fakes → Live in what's real

Avoid the traps → Walk in wisdom

Call to Suspicion → Call to Spiritual Maturity



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# Fake Free

*Stay Anchored in God so Lies Don't Shake You*

## 1 John 4:4-6 (NIV)

<sup>4</sup> 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.

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- Good news!
- We need not in fear because we are children of God
- We can live in victory because we have Holy Spirit

# Knowing What's Real Is Key



Look

Feel

Smell

# How do we recognize God's Spirit?

**Test #1**

**Word  
Test**



**Test #2**

**Spirit  
Test**



**Test #3**

**Community  
Test**




# Living Fake Free

## What Should I Do?

## Practical Suggestions

Test #1  
Word  
Test



**Be Grounded  
To the Word of God**  
(2 Tim 3:16-17)



**Daily Word Intake**  
Join in BBTC Anniversary  
Read.40 Bible Reading Challenge  
Join BBTC Academy

Test #2  
Spirit  
Test



**Be Fervent with  
the Holy Spirit**  
(Rom 12:11)



**Constant Prayer Connect**  
Build your Altar of praise  
and thanksgiving

Test #3  
Community  
Test



**Be Connected  
To Believers**  
(Heb 10:24-25)



**Be part of BBTC Bodylife**  
Join a Cell Group

# How do I know what's real?

## Conclusion

Verse 1



### False Facade

*Not everything spiritual is from God*

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### Fake Free

*Stay Anchored in God so Lies Don't Shake You*

# Not everything in this world can be faked



## His love is not seasonal

Jeremiah 31:3

I have loved you with an everlasting love;  
I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.

## He claimed us as His own

1 John 3:1

*See what great love the Father has lavished on us,  
that we should be called children of God.*

## He loved us at our worst

Romans 5:8

*But God demonstrates His own love for us in this:  
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us*

# God's Love In Action (My Testimony)



## Bottom-Line

Scammers can steal your money,  
Deepfakes can steal your sights,  
False prophets can steal your faith,  
But truth has a face and His name is Jesus.  
Let's stay close enough to the real Shepherd to know His voice.

**John 8:32**

*Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.*