***Lesson Twenty-Seven***

**1 Thessalonians 5:19-21**

**Test the Spirits**

In 1 Thessalonians 5:19-22 Paul issues 5 commands to the church, in general. This lesson examines the first 3 of those commands, in v. 19-21a.

**1.** In the first command, Paul states . . . ***do not quench the Spirit***. In the command, ***do not quench***, what does the word ***quench*** (*sbennumi*—#4570) mean?

**2.** In v. 19, what ***Spirit*** is Paul referring to? How is it possible for anyone to ***quench the Spirit***?

**3.** In the second command, v. 20, Paul states . . . ***do not despise prophetic utterances***. In the command, ***do not despise***, what does the term ***despise*** (*exoutheneō*—#1848) mean?

**4.** What does the term ***prophetic utterances*** (*prophēteia*—#4394)? How were ***prophetic utterances*** displayed and used within the early church? Do ***prophetic utterances*** exist in the church today? Why or why not?

**5.** In the first 2 commands . . . ***do not quench the Spirit*** and ***do not despise prophetic utterances***, what is the relationship between these two commands?

**6.** Why were the Thessalonians being dismissive of the gift of prophecy in their midst?

**7.** In the third command, v. 21a, Paul states . . . ***examine everything carefully***. What does the command, ***examine*** (*dokimazō*—#1381) mean? What is Paul calling upon the Thessalonians to ***examine***?

**8.** Compare 1 Thessalonians 5:21a to 1 John 4:1. John uses the phrase ***test the spirits*** in reference to ***examining*** teaching that enters into the church. How can we, practically, ***test the spirits to see whether they are from God***?