

Series: Family Fellowship
"Antichrist Alert" Pt. 3, # 10
1 John 2:20-21, 24-27
6-17-18 Sun PM

As we continue our exposition through the book of I John the author addresses the issue of false teachers or antichrists.

"Antichrist" means against Christ or instead of Christ. In other-words, they counterfeit the real Christ.

Antichrists are false teachers but the rank and file lost are not antichrists. Antichrists have or have been associated with the church.

TT- John exposes these false teachers and tells us how to detect them.

I. They Attack Christ.

1. He Has a Time (v. 18).
2. He is a spirit of spiritual error (v. 22).
3. He is a deceiver.

II. They Abandon the Church.

1. They Desert the Fellowship (2:19).
2. They Deny the Faith (2:22-23).

III. They Assault the Christian (2:20-21, 24-27).

The increased number of false teachers can discourage us and overcome us if we are not careful. It's kind of like a very deep state and imitating at times.

We have the promise of First John 4:4. We have a two-fold arsenal they cannot stand. One is the anointing of the Spirit, and the other is the Word of God.

1. We have experienced the Anointing of the Spirit (2:20-21, 27).

v. 19: What has enabled us to remain in sound doctrine and the faith? We have the anointing from the Holy One (v. 20).

"You have" is a stark contrast with the antichrist of 2:18-19.

The anointing refers to our receiving the Holy Spirit (John 14:17; 15:26; 16:13). The "Holy One" who provides this anointing is probably Jesus, who is given this title numerous times in Scripture.

We now have an internal and abiding Teacher who guides us in all truth (2:21, 27). By him abiding in us and us in him, no lie will seduce us, deceive us, and lead us astray.

Don't be troubled by "no need not any man teach you."

- We know the Bible affirms teachers.
- Therefore John does not rule out a human teacher.
- John himself is teaching us today.

- The false teachers were insisting that the apostles teaching was not enough, they needed “higher knowledge beside the apostles teaching, which they claimed to possess.
- The teaching ministry of the Holy Spirit is called illumination (the ability to understand already revealed truth).
- We are to test the spirits whether they are of God (I John 4:1).

2. We must embrace the authority of the Scriptures (2:24-26).

John uses one of his favorite words and concept “abiding,” or “remain.” This word appears 23 times in I John. Abide speaks of both union and communion.

We are to remain in the teaching of Christ which we received at conversion. To abide in his teaching is to abide in the Father and the Son. Jesus + nothing = everything!

God promised us eternal life in the Son and the Spirit and the apostles teaching always agree. If what men teach goes against or beyond what those who knew him taught, then they are not of God.

Titus 1:1-3, *“Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God’s elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; (2) In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; (3) But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Savior”*

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. This is what the Spirit affirms and what the Word says. We believe it and abide in it and eternal life is promised to us.

Next Week: “The Blessings of Abiding in Jesus” 2:28-3:3