

Series in 1 John

3 Pictures

Light – Darkness Walk in the Light

Love – Hatred Walk in Love

Truth – Error Walk in Truth

Deep Concern from John

Those who deny the truth

Those who misrepresent the truth

Affirmation

You can spot them, abide

"Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us. But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge. I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth. Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son.

"No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also. Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father. And this is the promise that he made to us—eternal life. I write these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you. But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie—just as it has taught you, abide in him."

#### Terms to Investigate

- 'last hour'
  - age after Jesus death & before his return
  - kind of time, a season not a duration
  - characteristics of this season 1 Tim. 4
- 2 Peter 3:8 "But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."

- Antichrist
  - prefix anti has dual meaning in Gk
  - against fighting
  - instead of substituting
  - used in scripture by John
    - 1 John 2:18,22, 4:3, 2 John 1:7
  - Spirit in world that opposes or denies Christ
  - False teachers that promote this spirit as true
  - Person who will lead World rebellion against Christ and His truth

#### Three Ways to Discern

- 1. Departs from Fellowship
- 1 John 2:19 "They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us"
  - continuing in fellowship important
  - have some doctrinal differences, fellowship and fundamentals crucial
  - false teachers lead you away from integration in the body, towards their teaching

#### 2. Denies Who Jesus Is

- 22-25 "Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son. No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also."
  - common claims of false teachers
    - special knowledge & insight
    - special anointing and word
    - new revelation, insight no one else has

- core issue Who is Jesus
  - good teacher, great example, good man
  - the incarnate God
- 1 John 4:1-4 "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already."

#### 3. Deceives the Followers

- often not converting from outside faith
- trying to seduce believers to follow them
- 1 Tim. 4:1-3 "Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth"

- 1 Cor. 4:1-2 "Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God."
- John 8:44 "You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies"

#### Stand on These Two Things

- 1. The Word of God
- vs. 24 "Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father."
- Col. 3:16 "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."

#### 2. The Work of the Holy Spirit

- vs. 27 "But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie—just as it has taught you, abide in him."
  - can trust the Holy Spirit to reveal truth
- God gifts and uses people, we are to teach and instruct one another, but the spirit bears witness to the truth!

#### So What

- 1. There is Truth
  - not opinions you choose between
  - believers walk in light, love and truth
- 2. There are those who Deceive
  - clear ways to spot them
  - will target believers with lies and deception
- 3. You can Stand
  - you have the word
  - you have the Holy Spirit