



Facing Spiritual Conflict with the Truth (1 John 2:18-28)

Study Notes Handout: March 4th

Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour... But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth. - 1 John 2:18, 20

As the gospel spreads, so will false teaching. As Christ's missionaries go out to the nations, so will Satan's missionaries called 'antichrists'! We are engaged in a global conflict for the souls of men and women. - Daniel L. Akin

The most important fact about the Antichrist, however, is that he will not win! Like his master, Satan, he is already a defeated foe—because by Christ's death and resurrection He has gained the victory over all the forces of evil. Is your faith and hope in Him? - Billy Graham

1. Antichrist: The nature of our spiritual enemy who is a liar and a deceiver (2:18-19, 22; 4:3)

2. Anointing: The nature of those who truly belong to God and know the truth (2:20-21, 26-27)

3. Abiding: The nurture of those who are born of God and await the coming of Christ. (2:24 - 28)

Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

- i. Why is it important for us to remember that Antichrist is both a principle and a person? How can we identify the principle that is at work around us?
- ii. What are the dangers of too much speculation about the person John identifies as Antichrist?
- iii. What is the 'Christological test' John gives us of identifying true believers?
- iv. What does John refer to when he uses the word 'anointing'? What are some of the errors of interpretation that have accompanied these verses?
- v. What is our responsibility in nurturing an abiding and close relationship with Jesus Christ?



Study and Discussion Questions

1 John 2:18-27

Explore It

1. Who was coming and who had come at the time John wrote this? (2:18)
2. In what way is denying (or acknowledging) the Son related to having the Father? (2:23)
3. What did John encourage his readers to do? (2:24)
4. Why did the author write these things? (2:26)

Get It

5. What antichrists are among us today?
6. What have we been taught by the anointing of the Holy Spirit?
7. What groups of people are trying to lead believers astray today?
8. How can we protect ourselves against false teachers and antichrists?

Apply It

9. What steps do you need to take to better prepare yourself against antichrists and their false doctrines?
10. Who is someone you can encourage in their relationship with Christ this week?