



When 1 John was written around AD 90, the life changing **TRUTH** of Jesus was rapidly spreading across the ancient world. Multitudes of people were becoming His followers. Churches were growing in number, size and influence. The Holy Spirit was working, and it was exciting. However, at the same time, Satan was working also. False teachers, recruited by the Evil One, were spreading **TRICKY** lies about Jesus that were leading people away from faith in Christ. It was a big problem back then, and it is an even bigger problem right now. You see, false spiritual teachers have been on the increase ever since those early days of Christianity. Their deceptive doctrines have resulted in a world full of false religions and cults. Additionally, their delusional lies have sown all kinds of ignorance, doubt and confusion among believers who are not well grounded in their faith by the teachings of the Bible. So, here's some super important questions for God that require some super clear responses from God. Specifically, how can we identify false teachers and their teachings? Why does it matter so much that we do? What resources do Christians have that can enable believers to discern Scriptural truth from Satan's tricks? We'll find out answers in today's study of **1 John 2:18-27**.

THE REALITY OF OUR TIMES

(1 John 2:18)

We live in a time that is extraordinarily receptive to ...

the last hour

antichrist

4 TELLTALE SIGNS OF TOTALLY FALSE TEACHERS

1. (v.18) False teachers are ...

2. (v.19) Most false teachers come from ...

3. (vv.22-23) False teachers lie about ...

4. (v.26) False teachers want to ...

THE BELIEVER'S PATH TO GOD'S HONEST TRUTH

1. (v.20) Believer's have the ...

2. (v.21) Believers have been gifted to ...

3. (v.24) Believers have Jesus who is ...

TODAY'S TAKEAWAYS

Spend time in ...

Stand firm in ...

Stay focused on ...

FOR THOUGHT AND TALK

In your small group take 5-10 minutes to review the main points of Pastor John's message. Discuss the following questions, taking your time as the Spirit leads, realizing you don't have to cover them all.

1. **1 John 2:18-26** is a long passage that requires careful listening to capture John's flow of thought. Read it aloud from the **NASB** and from the **NLT**. What would you say is the "Big Ideas" that John is communicating to his readers in these verses?

2. What are some of the false religions and cults that are popular in our culture today? Have you ever had personal contact with their false teachings? Did these lies make you question your own beliefs? Have you ever been involved in a false religion or cult? How did you manage to leave it?

3. Even though we are opposed to any spiritually false teachings that are contrary to the Bible, Jesus still wants us to have a witness to those who are being confused and led astray. What does that witness need to look like in order to be effective in leading someone who is astray "back home" to Christ and His truth?

4. Close your small group by praying for NCFE to grow stronger and more effective in the proclamation of Biblical truth in all our ministries.

*11.08.20 - 10th in a series of messages by Pastor John K. Nagle from the Book of 1 John.
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