

I John 2:15-29 – 31 August 2025

“Anointed To Abide”

Introduction

*Chap 1 began with a look at our level of devotion to Jesus Christ as the Life and the Light of the world

*1st half of Chap 2 spoke much of developing our love and obedience to our great Savior and Advocate

*Now we finish Chap 2 with a look at every believer's anointing to abide in Christ to experience the fulness of the joyful life He has ready for us

Today, we'll see 3 attributes of abiding in Christ

#1 – Place of our abiding: It's in the Lord and not in the world (Vs 15-17)

Read Vs 15

1. Is your life's pursuit something of this world (comfort, money, raising wealthy kids)
 - a. Or is your life's pursuit to know God

- b. Read Luke 16:13 – If we read the parable just before, Jesus is saying the resources of the world are to be our servants not our masters
- 2. Now, we can love the beauty & people of the world, but we've been severed from the *living under the sun* mindset when we were born again
 - a. Read Eph 2:2 & Gal 5:24
 - b. Now it's a choice to live for God (Read Col 3:2-3)

Read Vs 16

- 1. We have 3 enemies (world, flesh & devil)
 - a. Like we're 3 dimensional (body, mind, spirit)
 - b. Battlefield is in the middle, the mind (world)
- 2. Just as our mother Eve was tempted, within the world we're also tempted by these three
 - a. Lust of flesh: drawn to stimulate our 5 senses
 - i. Eve believed the fruit was *good for food*
 - b. Lust of the eyes: drawn to live by outward appearance & not by substance & truth

- i. Eve saw the fruit was *pleasant to the eyes*
- c. Pride of life: drawn to promote self
 - i. Eve believed the fruit was *desired to make you wise*

Read Vs 17

1. How futile it is to pursue this world, since it's only here for a moment
2. Jesus is our example of living in this world but not for this world
 - a. At His temptation, He defeated all 3 of these
 - i. Lust of flesh – stones to bread – be filled
 - ii. Lust of eyes – thrown down - angels will protect
 - iii. Pride of life – Worship me - gain the world
3. We avoid the temptations of the world as we abide in the truth of God's Word
 - a. Read John 17:14-18

#2 – Power of our abiding: It's the Spirit of God and not the spirit of Anti-Christ (Vs 18-23)

Read Vs 18

1. The spirit of anti-Christ is already at work in the world thru many people, yet there will be the Anti-Christ in the future
2. We live with imminency that Jesus Christ could return at any time
 - a. If John considered he was in the last hour, we should consider we're in the last minutes!
3. Jesus said the closer we get to the end, the more people will pop up acting against Christ (Read Matt 24:24)
 - a. Demonic power will fill then to deceive

Read Vs 19

1. So what are the characteristics of the spirit of Anti-Christ?
 - a. They deny Jesus is God & Christ (2:22)
 - b. They deny God came in the flesh (4:3)
 - c. They can do miracles (Matt 24:24)
 - d. They were w/ Christians yet left (2:18-19)

2. Now this isn't church hoppers, these are people that are too "spiritual" to agree w/ any church
 - a. In fact they often begin their own church

Read Vs 20

1. Believers have the ability thru our new nature to identify what is false teaching & bad thinking
 - a. Believers have been given the Holy Spirit
 - b. We've been anointed (covered) by the H. S.
2. Please notice the Bible doesn't speak of any specific anointing for 'special' Christians
 - a. This & II Cor 1:21 are the only mentions of anointing in the New Testament
 - b. It's a general anointing ALL believers receive
 - c. Anointing or *chrisma* is where we get *Christ*
 - d. This is totally different word than *charisma* often translated gifts (ie gifts of the Spirit)
 - e. This is a completely different word than *aleipho* when Mary anointed Jesus feet or the anointing of oil for the sick instructed in James

3. What does the anointing NOT do?
 - a. It's not about confirming a leader's authority
 - b. It's not a special manifested power
 - c. It's not an atmosphere of special worship
4. What does this anointing do? Gives us the intuitive knowledge we need to recognize liars
 - a. Read John 14:26 – H.S. teaches us all things
 - b. So the H.S. gives us knowledge that we did not or cannot have naturally

Read Vs 21-23

1. The spirit & teaching that is Anti-Christ will always confuse the identity of Jesus
2. The identity of Jesus as the Messiah (Christ) is tied to His relationship & identity with the Father
 - a. Jesus isn't just the chosen one, He's the chosen one of God
 - b. Jesus isn't just the chosen man, He's the chosen Godman, fully man and fully God

#3 – Purpose of our abiding: It gains eternal life and confidence (Vs 24-29)

Read Vs 24

1. What is it that we *heard from the beginning*?
 - a. Specifically it's obeying the principle of the Law as the fulfilment of love (Read II John 6)
 - b. But in general, it's living as Jesus originally taught & not falling for the new fresh deceivers
2. Our senses are attracted to things different & new, but truth has always been a known value
3. The process of abiding in God's Word brings us to the goal of abiding in relationship w/ God
 - a. It's not about simple knowledge, but having a 2-way relationship w/ the God of the universe

Read Vs 25

1. Eternal life isn't just a quantity, it's a quality
 - a. It isn't just immortality (everyone has that)
 - b. It is an existence of incorruptibility

Read Vs 26-27

1. Deceivers will try teaching us, **and** the Holy Spirit within will teach us
 - a. We can rely on the Holy Spirit to protect us & teach us thru God's Word
2. As we abide in His Word, asking for the Holy Spirit's power, we are assured of deliverance from seduction

Read Vs 28-29

1. Those abiding in Christ will supernaturally be becoming purer & more righteous showing the results
2. We want all Christians to have this confidence before the Lord returns
 - a. Confidence is the word *boldness* or '*all speaking*'
 - b. There's a distinct connection between abiding daily in Christ & speaking up for Him regularly

Conclusion

So Christian, you have been anointed with the ability to abide, endure and conquer great things

1. What is the place of our abiding?

- a. It's in the Lord's will & NOT in the world
- b. Are you still pursuing the fleeting authority & riches of this world?
 - i. Or the riches of God's Kingdom?

2. Where is the power to abide?

- a. It's in the Holy Spirit keeping us from the deception of the spirit of Anti-Christ
- b. Are you still confused about what is true?
 - i. Or is the fog clearing by the Word & H.S.?

3. What is the purpose of our abiding?

- a. To gain eternal life and confident boldness
- b. Have you found eternal life?
 - i. Or are you still abiding in death?

Come to the cross of Jesus and you'll receive the anointing to abide in God's love and grace!