

THE ANOINTED

1 John 2:18-27

A Loaded Question

Do you want your children and grandchildren to be Christians?

Another way to ask it –

-Do you want your children and grandchildren to have a church?

-Do you want them to have the opportunity to belong to a faithful community of believers?

If you and I want that – then we have a responsibility!

Read 1 John 2:18-27

Pray

Calling All Christians

You will notice that John address this (v. 18) to the “Children” of God.

-John sees great authority and ability of a Christian armed with the truth!

-This is a call to or an alarm for all the children of God!

Let’s highlight two things that John says to all Christians, then come back and look at them in the context –

-v. 20 – *“But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge.”*

-v. 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.”*

Antichrist vs. Anointed

John is clearly contrasting those who are “antichrist” and those who are “anointed” –

-Simply put, the anointing is about Christ – It’s about knowing Christ – Abiding in Christ.

-The contrast is between antichrists and those with Christ.

-The anointing is about the Holy Spirit in that the Spirit baptizes you into Christ.

-Jesus says (in John’s gospel) that he would go away but that He would send the Spirit.

-What would the Spirit do? Point them to Christ – Glorify Christ.

-To see this anointing as merely a charismatic experience of the Spirit is to miss the point.

-The contrast isn’t between anti-spirit and anointed but antichrist and anointed!

So, the contrast is between those who are –

-Against Christ – No Christ – Opposed to Christ

-and

-Those who are of Christ – Who abide in Christ.

1 – The Antichrists Leave – The Anointed Remain

-John sets the scene by saying, *“...it is the last hour...we know it is the last hour...”* (v.18) –

-John’s redemptive timeline has four hours –

-The first hour was when Jesus laid down His life for the salvation of God’s people.

-John 2:4; 7:30; 8:20; 12:23, 27; 13:1; 16:32; 17:1

-The second hour is when Jesus ushered in a new understanding and practice of worship.

-John 4:21, 23

-The third hour was when they would be persecuted (martyred) for Christ.

-John 6:2, 4, 25

-Then the “last” hour is the “end times” –

-The time before the Antichrist is revealed, Christ returns and final judgment –

-John 5:25, 28; 1 John 2:18

- John's "last hour" is equivalent to Paul's and Peter's "last days" –
 - 2 Tim. 3:1 and 2 Pet. 3:3
 - And John's reference to the "last day" in John 6:39, 40, 44, 54
- John is saying, in essence, "You have been taught that in the last days the Antichrist will be revealed – there are already those of the same ilk as him – those who oppose Christ."
 - And he has referred to them throughout this letter –
 - 1 John 1:6, 8, 10 – He alludes to these antichrists with a nondescript "we"...
 - Then in chapter two he is more specific – "Whoever says, 'I know him' but doesn't keep his commandments is a liar."
 - 1 John 2:4, 6, 9
- The antichrist fall away while the anointed remain –
 - Read verse 19 –
 - John says, "They were not of us" and that their leaving makes it plain that they are all not "of us." (v. 19)
 - There has been several well-known Christians who have come out as non-Christian.
 - Sad but not shocking for John said it would happen!
 - But not with the anointed – they remain in Christ –
 - Go back to verse 17 – *"And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever."*
 - v. 25 – *"And this is the promise that he made to us – eternal life."*

2 – The Antichrists Deny Christ – The Anointed Confess Christ

- The contrast is so clear –
 - v. 22 – *"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."*
 - John is echoing what Jesus said over and over – "You receive me then you receive the One who sent me – but you deny me and you deny the One who sent me."
- For the anointed there's a cord woven through this –
 - v. 20 – *"But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge."*
 - v. 27 – *"...and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything..."*
 - Here's the cord – "anointed" "knowledge" "no teacher" "abiding" ...
 - Jesus is Lord – You don't need a teacher to teach you that because you already know it because you know Him!
 - Christians confess the truth about Jesus Christ –

3 – The Antichrists Deceive – The Anointed Abide

Application

1 – Doctrine matters

2 – Every believer is responsible for sound doctrine

3 – God give the grace we need for the responsibility we have