

That You May Know

The Father and the Son — 1 John 2:22-27
March 10, 2019

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.
-1 John 2:22

I. WHO IS THE ANTICHRIST?

- Anyone who denies that Jesus is the Christ (Messiah) is not only a liar, but is antichrist. To deny the Son is to deny the Father (vs. 22-23; 1 John 1:3).
- To confess Jesus is to confess the Father as well. There is one person of the Father, another of the Son, and another of the Spirit. They are one (Matt. 11:27; John 1:18; 5:23; 14:6-7; 10:30; 15:23).
- The church of John's day had heard these truths "from the beginning" of their faith. If they abide in this truth, eternal life awaits (vs. 25; John 6:40).

II. THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- John affirms again that he is writing about the false teachers in the church, not about the faithful believers. Self-doubt is not the goal here (vs. 26).
- God has given true followers of his Son the anointing of the Spirit, that truth may be discerned and error denied (vss. 20, 26-27).
- The ministry of the Spirit is to set believers apart, to teach them, guide them, gift them, and purify them. He confirms those who are Christ's and prepares them for heaven. To have the Spirit is to have Christ (Rom. 8:9-11).
- The Spirit points us to truth (John 14:26; 16:12-15).

III. TWO GUARDS

- God has given us two safeguards against error: The word of Christ via the apostles' teaching and the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Both are received at our conversion (vss. 24, 27).

KNOW: If the truth to which you responded in the beginning remains in you, you will have the Father, Son and Spirit. Heresy is a lie; orthodoxy is true. Only one leads to eternal life.

DO: Trust in both God's word and God's Spirit.

Suggested Reading:

Who is the Holy Spirit? by R.C. Sproul (LifePoint Library #231 SPR) or [free](#) on Kindle

Jesus Wins: The Good News of the End Times by Dayton Hartman (LifePoint Library #230 HAR)

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read 1 John 2:22-27

1. According to John, who is the liar? What else is he/she beyond being a liar?
2. There are many religions that claim God as Father but do not claim Jesus as his Son, or at least as his unique Son. What do you think John would say about those religions?
3. What (or who) is the anointing that John speaks of in verse 27?
4. What is our hope if we hold fast to what we heard from the beginning?
5. Who are those who are trying to deceive John's readers (see verse 26)? What word does John use for those deceivers?
6. What is a point of application for you either from Sunday's text, or Sunday's message, or both?