

Stand against false teachers!

(1 John 2:18-27)

There three things lead us away from God:
Flesh, World, Devil.

Big Idea: False teachers will try to deceive you, but you have the truth; so, abide in Christ and win the battle.

¹⁸ Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour. ¹⁹ They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us. ²⁰ But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge. ²¹ I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth.

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. ²³ No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also. ²⁴ Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father. ²⁵ And this is the promise that he made to us-- eternal life.

²⁶ I write these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you. 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. (1Jo 2:18-27 ESV)

Big Idea: False teachers will try to deceive you, but you have the truth; so, abide in Christ and win the battle.

Stand against false teachers!

1. Beware of false teachers (1 Jn 2:18-19).
2. We can identify antichrists (vv. 20-23).
3. Remain in what you know (vv. 24-25).
4. Abide in Christ (v. 27).

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The truth about antichrists.

- i. Antichrists do exist (v. 18).
- ii. They exist in Christian churches (v. 18).
- iii. They might exist among us (v. 19).
- iv. They look like us but are not of us (v. 19; cf. Mt 7:15; 2Co 11:14-15).
- v. They eventually leave the truth (v. 19).

Watch out for antichrists!

- i. Learn the truth.
- ii. Watch the man.
- iii. Follow Christ.

2. We can identify antichrists (vv. 20-23).

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Real Christians:

- i. Have been anointed/saved (v. 20; Rom 8:9).
- ii. Posses all the knowledge needed for your salvation (v. 20b).
- iii. Know the truth of the gospel (v. 21).

Characteristics of antichrists.

- i. They're liars (v. 22).
- ii. Deny that Jesus is the Christ (v. 22).
- iii. Deny the Father and the Son (v. 22).
- iv. Fruitless or produce bad fruit (Mt 7:15).
- v. Arrogant, refuse accountability, and they're distracted (1 Tim 6:4).

Learn the truth.

- i. Study the Bible (2Ti 3:16-17).
- ii. Make church a priority (Eph 4:11-14; Heb 10:24-25).
- iii. Get in a small group or discipleship group.

3. Remain in what you know (vv. 24-25).

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Abide in what you know is true.

- i. You've heard the same gospel from the beginning.
- ii. If Christ abides in you, you abide in him.
- iii. God guarantees eternal life (v. 25).
- iv. Antichrists will try to deceive you (v. 26).

4. Abide in Christ (v. 27).

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.

Stand firm (abide) in the Lord.

- i. Abide (7 times in 1Jn 2:18-27).
- ii. Trust God's strength (Eph 6:10).
- iii. Remain faithful – stand firm (Eph 6:11).
- iv. Resist and live faithfully (1Pt 5:9).