

Studies in the Book of 1 John
“The Test of Truth”
Ralph “Yankee” Arnold

Lesson 6

TEXT: I John 2:18-27 Christians accept as truth that Jesus is the Christ

I. Distinction of Truth 2:18-21

- A. Error of the Antichrist 2:18,19
 - 1. The last days are characterized by false teachers “antichrists”
 - 2. False teachers are known by their lack of steadfastness in sound doctrine “They went out from us”, I believe, refers to those who left the apostles. It may be applied to those who leave due to doctrine.
- B. Knowledge of the Christians 2:20,21
“*Unction*”: The believer’s enablement to know truth (understanding God’s Word). The word “*unction*” is translated “anointing” in vs. 27 and it is the act or work of the Spirit in a believer enabling them to understand and know truth.

II. Definition of Error 2:22,23

- A. The sign of an antichrist (false teacher): denial that Jesus is the Christ
- B. Three statements are made concerning one who denies Jesus as the Christ
 - 1. He is a liar
 - 2. He is an antichrist
 - 3. He hath not the Father

III. Deliverance of Error 2:24-27

- A. Abiding in the truth 2:24,25
 - 1. **The believer’s responsibility:** To abide in the truth and let the truth abide in them.
 - 2. **God’s responsibility:** His promised that life eternal will abide in us
- B. Avoiding the Error 2:26,27
Truths concerning the “anointing” of the Holy Spirit
 - 1. The believer receives the anointing of the Holy Spirit when he is born again; “But the anointing which ye have received”
 - 2. All believers (not a select few) are anointed with the Holy Spirit.

- Notice even carnal (Corinthian) believers have been anointed. II Cor. 1:21,22

The Spirit’s anointing is once and for all. “*which ye have received of him abideth in you*”. This anointing “*abideth*” (remains, continues) in you. The anointing of the Spirit is act of the Holy Spirit enabling the believer to understand scripture. No man can do this for you. The Holy Spirit is the true teacher of the Word of God. You may hear Charismatic preachers always for a fresh anointing. This is contrary to scripture. The believer does not have to pray for something he already has.

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