

The Anti-Christ #2

Introduction:

- A. We continue our study this morning by considering where the anti-christ (in our text) came from and some things we can do to fortify ourselves against the anti-christ.
- B. NOTE: John points out the appearance of the anti-christ is proof of the last hour (time).
 - 1. 2:18 – *“Little children, **it is the last hour:** and as ye heard that antichrist cometh, even now have there arisen many antichrists; **whereby we know that it is the last hour.**”*
 - 2. The fact many were anti-christ was proof it was, and thus is, the last hour, time/dispensation.
 - 3. The Christian Dispensation is the last, no other will follow after it.

I. Origin Of John’s Anti-Christ.

- A. 2:19 – John said they *“**went out from us.**”*
 - 1. John speaks about a particular class of the anti-christ – those that had professed Christianity.
 - 2. This was in fulfillment of Jesus’ parable of the sower in Matt.13:1-9; 18-23.
- B. 2:19 – John also said they *“**were not of us.**”*
 - 1. They professed Christianity but they had not really been converted – they really didn’t belong.
 - 2. This shows it is impossible to know the heart of those we consider converted to Christ.
 - 3. There is no indication at all that while they were with the faithful they were not considered saved.
- C. John further said that had these brethren been *“**of us**”* they would have continued *“**with us.**”*
 - 1. Those who are truly convicted remain, walking faithfully in the ways of the Lord.
- D. By their going out they showed they were not *“**of**”* the brethren.
 - 1. Their exodus showed their true color.
 - 2. Those merely convinced to obey the gospel will show their lack of true conviction by embracing false doctrines – their departure is their “unmasking.”
- E. So John shows us the category of anti-christ he speaks of originated from within the family of God.
 - 1. Consider also Acts 20:29,30; 2 Pet.2:1,2.

II. Fortification Against The Anti-Christ.

- A. Why do we need to be fortified against the anti-christ?
 - 1. The answer should be obvious – vs.26.
 - a. See again Acts 20:29,30; 2 Pet.2:1,2.
 - 2. We need to be fortified so we will not be led astray by the anti-christ.
- B. What do we need to be fortified against the anti-christ?
 - 1. **Knowledge** – 2:20,21,27.
 - a. The ones John is writing to knew the truth and thus knew the spirit of the anti-christ, who speaks lies about the Father and Son – vs.22.
 - b. They had *“an anointing from the Holy One”* – vs.20.
 - 1) God had commanded that Kings (1 Sam.10:1), Priests (Ex.29:7), and sometimes Prophets (Isa.61:1) were to be commissioned into their positions by anointing with oil.
 - 2) The word *“anointing”* or *“unction”* (χρίσμα) means:
 - a) Vine, page 51 – *“signifies an unguent, or an anointing.”*
 - b) Thayer, page 672 – *“anything smeared on, unguent, ointment.”*
 - 3) With the Kings, Priests, and Prophets they would have an oil or ointment literally smeared on them to be commissioned to their position.
 - a) They were thus regarded as endued with the H.S. and divine gifts – cf.1 Sam.16:13; Isa.61:1.
 - 4) This anointing:
 - a) ...is *“...from the Holy One”* – vs.20.
 - b) ...was abiding in them – vs.27.
 - c) ...taught them – vs.27.

- 5) What, then, is the anointing of the Holy One John speaks of?
 - a) Two possible interpretations:
 - i) The gift of the Holy Spirit itself which is given to all who obey the gospel – Acts 2:38; Eph.1:13,14; Gal.4:6.
 - ii) Or the gifts of the Holy Spirit which were imparted to some Christians living in the first century – Acts 6:8; 8:5-24; 1 Cor.12:4-11.
 - b) MY conclusion is John is saying they have the gifts of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor.12:4-11) and by these gifts they are guided unto all the truth.
 - c. We can have the same kind of knowledge today by the gift of the Holy Spirit Himself to those who believe **and** by the written revelation of God’s new covenant – cf.2 Tim.3:16,17.
 - d. By this knowledge we can guard against the spirit of the anti-christ because we will know the truth and, therefore, be able to see clearly the lies of the anti-christ.
2. **Faith to abide in teaching** – vs.24.
 - a. Have THE FAITH abiding in us.
 - 1) *“let that abide in you which ye heard from the beginning.”*
 - 2) This would be the inspired teaching of the apostles – the Gospel of Christ.
 - 3) 1 Jn.1:1-4 – John shows this would include His divinity, humanity, and even His authority.
 - b. To have THE FAITH abiding in us, we must abide in all the teachings of the gospel.
 - 1) 4:6 – We must hear the words of the apostles and abide in those teachings.
 - 2) 2 Jn.9 – *“Whosoever goeth onward and abideth not in the teaching of Christ, hath not God: he that abideth in the teaching, the same hath both the Father and the Son.”*
 - 3) Jn.15:4-10 – Abide in Him.
 - a) Will abide in His love if keep commandments.
 - b) Also, if abiding in Him, bearing fruit and not developing the spirit of anti-christ.
3. **Boldness (Confidence)** – vs.28; 4:17.
 - a. Boldness or confidence at His appearing.
 - b. His return has been promised.
 - c. All men will react to His appearing in one of 2 ways.
 - 1) With Boldness (Confidence) the Christian may draw near to God.
 - a) Now in Prayer – Heb.4:16.
 - b) In the day of Judgment – 1 Jn.4:17; 2 Thess.1:7-10.
 - 2) Others will be *“ashamed before Him at His coming.”*
 - a) There will be a shrinking or drawing away on the part of unbelievers.
 - b) cf.Rev.6:15-17 – They hid for fear of the wrath of the Lamb.
 - c) Mk.8:38 – Equally the Lord will be ashamed of us.
 - d. If we will have boldness to draw near to God (in prayer now and in person in the judgment) we will be fortified against the anti-christ.

Conclusion:

- A. Again, the book of 1 John is to show the difference in the children of God and the children of Satan.
- D. The test simplified:

The Anti-christ	The True Child
Went out from us	Abide in Christ
Denies...	Believes...
The Son	On the Son
His Humanity	In His Humanity
His Authority	Accepts His Authority
Heareth Us Not	Hears Us

- E. Do you show forth the spirit of being anti-christ by refusing to submit to the will of Christ and being baptized into Christ?
- F. If so, why not give up that spirit by obeying the gospel of Jesus Christ?