

Title: Don't Be Led Astray

Text: I John 2:18-~~26~~ 27

Would you open your Bibles, please, to I John chapter 2. I John chapter 2 verse 18. Our topic: DON't be led ASTRY.

(READ 1JOHN 2:18-27)

Prayer

Our heavenly Father, we pray, again, as we open your Word, that you would give to us understanding. That you would guide our steps even as you have promised. May the Holy Spirit speak to us that we might understand your Word this morrowing. Our Father, we pray for those in the audience today who have never come to believe that Jesus is the Son of God, and have never trusted Him as Lord and Saviour. Give to them and understand, and lead them to a place of decision in their lives.

And Father, we pray for Christians, that we might understand, again, why John is writting to us. That we might not be deceived and led ASTRY. We pray this in the precious name of Jesus our Lord.....Amen

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I remind you that we are studying the doctrine of assurance. John wrote this little letter to Christians that we might know that ~~you~~<sup>we</sup> have eternal life.

~~Now~~<sup>And</sup> we have been studying in chapters one and two the wonderful concept of fellowship . Fellowship with the Father and with His son Jesus christ.

(2A) Now, today we come to the second ~~section~~<sup>section</sup> of this book. And this section deals with one of the most important problems in the life of a christian.

*It is wonderful to have fellowship with God — to have those assurance ~~assurance~~ — and to experience forgiveness of sin — Thus fellowship with the living Lord*

(2A) ~~Start by reading the second section of this little book on the~~  
~~problems in the life of a Christian.~~ And that is: THE PROBLEM OF  
 DECEPTION. It is amazing how many people are lead astray. How many  
 people are deceived and wandering from the truth of God's Word. ~~It never~~  
~~ceases to amaze me how few we really are.~~ There is seldom a Sunday that  
 goes by, that I do not think of how many people there will be who will  
 not believe a thing we will say, here, today. They do not accept it.  
 They ignore it. And there are very few people who are giving attention  
 to the Word of God. ~~There are~~ <sup>Thursday and use</sup> Very few people who are going to church.  
 And beyond all of that there are very few churches where they are going -  
 where they are going to hear the Bible taught.

And the Lord Jesus prophesied that there would be a day of <sup>Falling</sup> going away  
 from the truth. He called it - AN APOSTASY. And it would be a  
 characteristic of the LAST TIMES. A standing apart from the truth and the  
 ignoring of the Scripture. Of going away from the Bible and no longer  
 considering it important in a person's experiences. I believe, dear  
 friends, that that day is here. And this makes these verses very important.

What will keep the believer from being lead astray? These verses  
 give to us <sup>Two</sup> ~~three~~ principles which if we apply them to <sup>our</sup> ~~our~~ lives will  
 keep us from being lead astray. <sup>Two</sup> ~~Three~~ basic principles.

Number one: The principle of Antichrist. You will not be lead astray  
 if you understand who the antichrist is. ~~We will consider the principle of~~

Number two: The principle of Anointing. What does that mean?

Number three <sup>Two</sup> ~~three~~ ...which we will not look at today, but will save it until  
~~later~~ is the principle of abiding. How do you abide in christ?  
~~Remember that as they will consider that today~~

(1B) Now, first of all, the principle of Antichrist. Do you really  
 understand what an ANTICHRIST IS? And what ~~he~~ is teaching?

(1C) According to these verse we have a defination. You may not have  
 seen it. It is found in Vs 18. It is the word "antichrist." ~~You ask~~  
 "What do you mean a definition?"

The word "Antichrist" gives us a definition of what these people are like. The prefix "anti" has basic two meaning in the Greek language.

*The Prefix Anti*  
(1D) It can mean "in opposition to" Or "opposed to". If I am "Anti" something, It means I am against it. *That is the Common English mean*

(2D) Also, the word "anti" could mean "in the stead of." or "substitution Someone is in the place of someone else.

These two meaning are often used interchangeable in the N.T.

I believe the meaning "in opposition to" is the meaning used here in I John. Let me share with you the reason I believe this.

In Matthew 24:24, which is the great prophecy teaching of Christ, he says in the last days there will be false christs. False christs who will come. Now, a false christ is not the same as "The Antichrist." A false christ is a person who pretends to be Christ. Who pretends to be the Messiah; the anointed one who is going to come. The Saviour of the world. Many people have an idea of "Messiah" today, which is not Biblical. They are claiming to be a false christ. They are claiming to be Christ and therefore they are false.

*ant*  
*James Manton*  
SO ~~but~~ here, we have an Antichrist. One who is "in opposition to Christ." He proposes to do the work of Christ, but he denies that their is a christ. That is an antichrist. *SO please know the* There is a difference between "Antichrist" and "False Christ."

(2C) Secondly, I want you to notice THEIR DEVELOPMENT . According to this passage of scripture, how did "Antichrist" get here?

Notice Vs 18: "children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have arisen; from this we know that it is the last hour."

From this verse, we learn two things. (1D) First, there is <sup>an</sup> "Antichrist." <sup>Who is comi</sup> An individual who is called "antichrist." And he is coming. He ~~is~~ is not on the world scene yet. But there is a one world political leader who will be called <sup>he</sup> "antichrist." <sup>or</sup> The man of sin.

I would like you <sup>to read</sup> please, to 2 Thessalonians. 2 Thessalonians chapter 2, where we have a discription of this "Antichrist" who is to come. This one who opposes Christ. 2 Thessalonians chapter 2 beginning at Vs 1: "Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." Notice, the Lord is coming. And I believe he is coming very soon. It could be today... "The coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and our gathering us together in him."

The Bible says that when the Lord desends from heaven the dead in Christ shall rise first, and then we who are alive will be caught up to meet Him in the air. When Jesus comes we will be gathered together unto him. Now, notice Vs 2....

(Read 2-4)

Here is a discription of the Antichrist. A man that is coming who is called <sup>the</sup> Antichrist. An According to other passages from the Bible, he is called a World policial leader. And he will oppose God. He will actural want the world to worship him.

<sup>omit</sup> (Vs 8.....(Read 8-10))

~~According to Vs 18~~ <sup>the Antichrist</sup> according to Vs 18 <sup>Understanding what is meant by</sup>

<sup>Coming</sup> Now, come back to I John 2:18 ~~...Understanding what is meant by~~ <sup>secondly</sup> ~~Antichrist, the one who is to come, you will understand~~ (2D0) <sup>the other</sup>

kind of antichrist. Vs 18 reads: "Even now many antichrist, have arisen."

There are people today who I believe are diffently <sup>in the spirit of the Antichrist</sup> ~~an Antichrist.~~

Not, "The Antichrist" who is to come. But in the spirit of Antichrist. People who are in the spirit of antichrist because they are in the attitude of this great deceiver who is to come. And that is the bases for what John says: "there are many antichrist just like this one."

(34)

But notice their deception in Vs 19: "They went out from us, but they were not really of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but they went out, in order that it might be shown that they all are not of us."

The spirit of the

Now, what is he saying? Well, very obviously, these ~~kinds of~~ <sup>people who are in</sup> Antichrist are within the ranks of professing Christians. "They went out from us, but they were not really of us." They were professing to be Christians, but they were not christians at all. For down deep they had a basic denial. There was something they denied. WHAT WAS IT?

Look at Vs 22; "Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ." The word "Christ" is "Messiah." It does not say that they don't believe in Jesus. A person is a fool not to believe in the historical Jesus because we have records of him. We know he lived. But notice the denial: They denied that he was "the Christ" - "the Messiah" - They denied this. And I remaind you today that scores and scores of ~~sh~~ people- people who say they believe in Jesus <sup>yet</sup> they denie the Hope that is in Christ - they denie ~~that he will come and rule over the whole world~~ <sup>his death</sup> - they denie that he is coming again in a personal bodily form. Any shape or form of that denial is a denial that Jesus is Christ.

Dear Friends  
Folks,

you are working with people every day of the week who ~~th~~ you may call a believe because they say things about Jesus and like his life. But if they denie that He is the Messiah - that he is coming again, the Bible says they are liars and that they are in the spirit of ANTICHRIST. A great spirit and mood of the last times preceeding the return of Christ.

II Peter 3 tells us that <sup>in Last Days</sup> there will be mockers who will coming saying <sup>u</sup> where is the promise of His coming? To believe that Jesus is Messiah is to believe that he is coming again. That he is the hope of the whole world.

So dear friends, if you are hear today ad you love Jesus, you also are in the spirit of the Antichrist



and ( And the issues of many articles today are in the spirit of antichrist. They are denying that Jesus is God.

Beware - John says in Vs 26 of chapter 2. And he is writing these things to you concerning those who are trying to deceive you.

The word "deceive" means one who is wandering away from the truth. Don't wander or stray away. It is so easy because you are faced with compromise where you work, you are faced with compromise at school, you are faced with compromise in your neighborhood. And it is so easy to cut corners here and there and to trim our message down to be acceptable to people. And soon...we are straying away from the truth of the teachings of Christ.

This, my christian friends, is a very serious matter. THE PRINCIPLE OF ANTICHRIST...Know what it is. Know how to detect it....

And you will not be led astray.... *And you will have assurance of your position in Christ*  
Shall we pray

*Now, if you have found yourself wandering away from the truth and you then can back  
Practice I John 1:9. (quote)*