Sermon Notes for July 7, 2019

Remain in the Truth

I John 2:18-27

Introduction

John gives us three tests for the assurance of our salvation.

- The Moral Test of obedience.
  “We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commandments.” I John 2:3
- The Social Test of love.
  “Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in the darkness.” I John 2:9
- The Doctrinal Test of truth.
  “Who is the liar? It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ.” I John 2:22

I. We are living in the last hour. I John 2:18-19

The last hour refers to the time in history between the first and second coming of Christ.

- It will be a period of great spiritual growth. Matthew 13:31-32 and 24:14
- It will be a time of spiritual conflict and deception. Matthew 24:5-8
- Jesus said, “Watch out that no one deceives you.”

This time will build toward a time of great distress and the coming of the Antichrist.

John tells us the coming of the antichrist is already at work in the world. It is the spirit that denies that Jesus is the Christ.

The word antichrist can mean two things:

- Instead of or in place of Christ. This would be a false Christ.
- In opposition to or against Christ. Someone who is against Christ and his church.

Where do we see false Christ’s today?

- In books and movies like the DaVinci Code by Dan Brown.
- In cults and false religions.
- Jehovah Witnesses say Jesus is a god not the God. Jesus was God’s first creation and we should worship Jehovah only.
- Mormons say that Jesus is our Elder Brother and one day we can become a god like him.
- Christian Science says that Jesus was a great man inspired by the Christ idea. He is not divine.

One of the prominent traits of all non-Christian religions and cults is their denial of the deity of Jesus Christ.
II. The word of God and the Spirit of God were given to protect us from deception and
lead us into eternal life. I John 2:20-23

“You have an anointing from the Holy One and all of you know the truth.”

The anointing is the Holy Spirit.

Every believer has the Holy Spirit dwelling in them.

Jesus said, “But when he, the Spirit of Truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth.” John
16:13

John expected the believers in his church to be discerning – to be able to discern between truth
and error.

If someone is not grounded in the Scriptures and abiding in the Spirit, they are sitting ducks for
false teaching.

III. Let the word of God and the Spirit of God abide in you. I John 2:24-27

Remain in the truth!

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly!” Colossians 3:16

Hold to the truth given us by the Apostles.

“Whoever has my words and keeps them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be
loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.” John 14:21

Be filled with the Spirit. Ephesians 5:18

The Spirit within you is real. He is true and he will guide you into all truth.

The Spirit of God will never lead us or ask us to do something that is contrary to the word of
God.

The Spirit of God will always point us to Jesus the Son of God.

Conclusion

The word of God and the Spirit of God are our only protection in a world filled with antichrists.
Remain in the truth and let the Spirit of God abide in you.