



Sunday, November 1, 2020

Key Text: 1 John 2: 18-29

We live in a world that is full of lies. How do we navigate? Where do we find the truth? Take heart; you can find truth in the power of the Holy Spirit.

### Setting the Scene:

<sup>20</sup>Peter turned around and saw behind them the disciple Jesus loved—the one who had leaned over to Jesus during supper and asked, “Lord, who will betray you?” <sup>21</sup>Peter asked Jesus, “What about him, Lord?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus replied, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? As for you, follow me.” John 21:20-22

- **The Last Day:** It is the period between the resurrection and the return of Christ.
- **The Antichrist:** The “antichrist” (often capitalized to refer to one particular Antichrist) will be entirely against Christ. The person called “Antichrist” is perhaps the same as “The boastful king, (Daniel 7:8), “the man of lawlessness” (2 Thessalonians 2:3), and “the beast” (Revelation 13:1–10)

The literal translation of “antichrist” can be rendered either “against” Christ or “instead of” Christ. “Anti” conveys opposition. <sup>1</sup>

Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the Spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world. <sup>2</sup>This is how we know if they have the **Spirit of God:** If a person claiming to be a prophet<sup>[a]</sup> acknowledges that Jesus Christ came in a real body, that person has the Spirit of God. <sup>3</sup>But if someone claims to be a prophet and does not acknowledge the truth about Jesus, that person is not from God. Such a person has the **Spirit of the Antichrist**, which you heard is coming into the world and indeed is already here. 1 John 4:1-3

- The Spirit of the Antichrist
  - Deny that Jesus is the Christ (2:22)
  - Deny Jesus is God's Son (2:23)
  - Deny Jesus was God in the flesh (Incarnate, 4:2)
- Beware of competing voices of substituting Christ. You stand for something, or you fall for everything.

<sup>27</sup>But you have **received the Holy Spirit**, and **he lives within you**, so you don't need anyone to teach you what is true. For **the Spirit teaches you** everything you need to know, and what he teaches is true—it is not a lie. So just as he has taught you, **remain in fellowship** with Christ. 1 John 2:27

### 1. Receive the Gift (1 John 2:20-23)

But what is this anointing? The Greek word simply means “what is rubbed on,” whether it is ointment or paint or medicine. In the New Testament (and Judaism) it took on a specialized use, referring to the gift of the Holy Spirit that would hallmark the reign of a king (2 Sam. 2:7), the authority of a prophet (Isa. 61:1), and the Messiah (11:1). “Christ” thus means “Anointed One,” since, by definition, the Messiah is filled with God's Spirit in an unparalleled way.<sup>2</sup>

John mentions the Holy Spirit several times in 1 John, and he wants his readers to understand that the Holy Spirit is a gift that every Christian receives. **1 John 2:20, 27, 3:24, 4:4, and 4:13**

<sup>1</sup> Barton, B. B., & Osborne, G. R. (1998). [1, 2 & 3 John](#) (p. 50). Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House.

<sup>2</sup> Burge, G. M. (1996). [Letters of John](#) (p. 128). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

<sup>26</sup> But when the Father sends the **Advocate** as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—**he will teach you everything and will remind you** of everything I have told you.<sup>27</sup> “I am leaving you with **a gift—peace of mind and heart**. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid. John 14:26-27,

<sup>38</sup> Peter replied, “Each of you must **repent** of your sins and turn to God, and **be baptized** in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will **receive the gift of the Holy Spirit**.”<sup>39</sup> This promise is to you, and to your children, and even to the Gentiles—all who have been called by the Lord our God.” Acts 2:38-39

- The Holy Spirit is not seized; He is received. This calls for continual prayer.

<sup>25</sup> Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. Galatians 5:25,

## 2. Live by the Spirit's Power (2:24-27)

<sup>15</sup> “If you love me, obey my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you **another** Advocate, who will never leave you. <sup>17</sup> He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him because **he lives with you now and later will be in you**.<sup>18</sup> No, I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you. <sup>19</sup> Soon the world will no longer see me, but you will see me. Since I live, you also will live. John 14:15-19

“**Another**” The Greek word used in John 14:16 is the first word, *allos*. The word *allos* emphatically means that the Holy Spirit would be like Jesus in every way. Following the Spirit's leading is following Jesus<sup>3</sup>

- Jesus tells the disciples that the Holy Spirit should come than Him to stay. **Because God with us is good, but God in us is better.**
- Being filled with the Spirit means being emptied of me. The Holy Spirit does not work by a committee. If He's in your life, He wants to be in charge. Filling of the Holy Spirit does mean the believer gets more of the HS, but the HS gets more of the believer.

**Μένω (meno)**, I remain, abide, wait; c. acc. I wait for, await.<sup>4</sup>

- It is the Spirit that empowers our thinking and enables us to live in the light.

## Last Thoughts

<sup>4</sup> But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the Spirit who lives in the world. 1 John 4:4, NLT

The victory over Satan and the victory over this world is not a future hope; it is a present reality. Victory is here. Victory is now.

<sup>3</sup> Renner, Rick (2003). *Sparkling Gems From the Greek Vol. 1: 365 Greek Word Studies For Every Day*

<sup>4</sup> Souter, A. (1917). [A Pocket Lexicon to the Greek New Testament](#) (p. 155). Oxford: Clarendon Press.