

I John 2:18-29

REVIEW...

• Growing in the LIGHT...

- o Having stated God is LIGHT – and in Him is NO darkness at all – **I John 1:5**
 - And having given us the THREE tests to PROVE we are in the LIGHT - **I John 2:1-11**
 - John described THREE seasons all of us should go through in the LIGHT!
 - Little Children – who KNOW they are forgiven – and KNOW the Father...
 - Young Men – who KNOW the Word – and have VICTORY over the Wicked one...
 - Fathers – who KNOW the one who is from the beginning – Jesus!
- o Part of GROWING up in the Lord – is GROWING apart from the world...
 - We are NOT to LOVE the world – Jesus would tell us to HATE it – **Luke 14:26**
 - If we LOVE the world – then the LOVE of the Father is NOT in us...
 - Because all that is in the WORLD – Lust of the flesh – eyes – and pride of life...
 - Are not of the FATHER – and they are all passing away!
- o Finally – Be a LIGHT...
 - The Final part to this FIRST section to the book – is the encouragement to Be a LIGHT...
 - John will look at being a LIGHT in THREE ways...
 - Because we are in the Last HOUR – Because we know the TRUTH – Because we ABIDE in Him!

BE A LIGHT...

• 1st – IN THE LAST HOUR... vs. 18-19 / 22-23

- o 1st – The Antichrist... vs. 18
 - Little children - it is the last hour!
 - Little Children [παιδίον] - 51x in NT – meaning a newborn infant...
 - It is the Last HOUR – very similar to the phrase LAST days – **Acts 2:17** – **II Timothy 3:1**
 - The LAST DAYS began when the Holy Spirit was poured out on Pentecost - **Acts 2:17**
 - And will continue right up to the rapture of the church – **I Thessalonians 4:16**
 - Which begins the DAY of the LORD – and the Tribulation – **Revelation 6-18**
 - The FIRST reason we should be a LIGHT – we are in the Last HOURS!
 - We are no longer counting DAYS – until the RAPTURE – we are counting HOURS...
 - Jesus is coming very SOON – and we need to be READY!
 - **Luke 21:28** – “When all these things begin to happen... look up - for your salvation is near!”
 - You have heard that the Antichrist is coming!
 - John gives us THREE evidences - that we are in the Last HOURS...
 - FIRST – Antichrist [ἀντίχριστος] – 5x in NT – **I John 2:18** – **2:22** – **4:3** – **II John 1:7**
 - The name means to be OPPOSED to the Christ – to be AGAINST Jesus...
 - The definite article [THE] is before the word – meaning THE Antichrist is coming [present]!
 - He will be a leader who will rise out of Europe – the little horn – **Daniel 7:8**
 - He will make a treaty with Israel for SEVEN years after the Magog invasion – **Ezekiel 38**
 - There is a good chance he will have Jewish heritage – God of his fathers – **Daniel 11:37**
 - He will make PEACE by offering to rebuild the THIRD Temple for Israel – **Daniel 9:27**
 - North of the Dome of the Rock [monument] – in a place called the Dome of the Spirit...
 - He will rebuild the Temple – and Jews will embrace him - **John 5:43**
 - The rise of the Antichrist – is one of the main events – in the Day of the LORD...
 - But since he has NOT yet come – then we know we are NOT yet in the Day of the LORD!

- **II Thessalonians 2:3** – “Let no one deceive you by any means - for that Day will not come unless... the man of sin is revealed...”
- Since we are in the Last HOURS - there is a good chance the antichrist is alive today...
- But he cannot be revealed until the HOLY SPIRIT is removed - **II Thessalonians 2:7**
- If he revealed himself now – we would all know who he is – tell the world not to follow!
- Even now many antichrists have come - by which we know that it is the last hour!
 - Although THE Antichrist has not yet come – there [perfect] are MANY antichrists...
 - Meaning there are a LOT of people today who are OPPOSED to Jesus...
 - Which lets us KNOW [γινώσκω] – we are living in the Last HOURS!
 - **Matthew 24:11** – “Many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.”
 - There are over TEN thousands religions [false prophets] in the world today...
 - Countless false religions - Islam - Hinduism - Buddhism...
 - As well as CULTS – Mormons – JW – Iglesia – who claim to believe in Jesus
 - Every one of them with only one purpose - meant to keep people from heaven...
 - The SPIRIT of antichrist all around us – OPPOSED to the Lord!
- o 2nd – Falling away... vs. 19
 - They went out from us!
 - SECOND – those who went out from us - people who commit APOSTASY...
 - APOSTASY [ἀποστασία] – meaning to depart from...
 - Talking about DEPARTURE from the FAITH – turning away from God!
 - **II Thessalonians 2:3** - “Let no one deceive you by any means - for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first.”
 - **I Timothy 4:1** – “The Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith.”
 - A 2006 survey of several nations – found ONLY 26% of people attend church weekly...
 - MANY have gone out from us – 74% of people do NOT go to church!
 - The most important command we have – is to LOVE God above all else - **Matthew 22:37**
 - But in the last days people will LOVE themselves rather than God – **II Timothy 3:2**
 - This is not hard for us to do – since we by nature tend to focus on ourselves...
 - The world is becoming POST CHRISTIAN – where many if not most – have DEPARTED...
 - Letting us know we are in the Last HOURS – but not yet the Day of the LORD!
 - They were not of us - for if they had been of us - they would have continued with us...
 - But they went out that they might be made manifest - that none of them were of us!
 - Anyone who DEPARTS the FAITH – was not part of the BODY of Christ...
 - Because if they were – they would have CONTINUED [pluperfect] with us...
 - CONTINUED [μένω] – to ABIDE – to hold cling to...
 - But they LEFT – so we could SEE [φανερόω] – they were NEVER part of the BODY!
 - There are going to be people who come to church for a while - then leave...
 - Maybe because of a hard teaching - upset because of something the Bible says...
 - Or because they expected something from God – other than salvation...
 - Maybe thinking coming to church would make them rich...
 - Whatever the reason – they choose to walk away from Jesus - deny the Faith...
 - But by walking away it only proves they were never serious about following Jesus!
- o 3rd – Denying... vs. 22-23
 - Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ!
 - THIRD – those who LIE – by denying who Jesus is...
 - Anyone who DENIES [present] Jesus is the CHRIST – is a LIAR!
 - Did you ever wonder why we call Jesus – Christ – like it is His last name...
 - Jesus is His NAME – [יהושע] – Yahweh Shua – God is Salvation...

- Christ is His TITLE – [Χριστός] or [מָשִׁיחַ] – meaning the anointed one!
- **I John 4:3** – “[Anyone] that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist.”
- The purpose of the MESSIAH – CHRIST – was to come and DIE – **Philippians 2:7-8**
- Jesus became a MAN – so that He could live a PERFECT life – and then DIE for our sin...
- Anyone who does NOT confess that – is a LIAR and does not speak the TRUTH!
- He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son!
 - Anyone who DENIES [present] the Father and Son are ONE – TRINITY – is a LIAR...
 - That person has the SPIRIT of the antichrist – they are OPPOSED to God...
 - The Bible makes it VERY clear – Jesus is God!
 - **Romans 9:5** – Jesus is the eternally blessed GOD - **Isaiah 9:6** – The Son is mighty the GOD...
 - **John 20:28** – Our Lord and GOD - **I John 5:20** - the True GOD!
 - The doctrine of the DEITY of Jesus - is the RED line that cannot be crossed...
 - It is what makes a RELIGION that claims to believe in Christ - a CULT...
 - There is great diversity within the Body of Christ – **I Corinthians 12:27**
 - And we can agree to disagree and a VAST collection of non-essentials...
 - But we CANNOT disagree on the Trinity - Deity of Jesus Christ – it is THE essential!
- Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either...
 - He who acknowledges the Son has the Father also!
 - ALL [παῖς] who DENY [present] the SON is God – do NOT have the Father...
 - But those who SAY [ὁμολογέω] the SON is God – have the Father too!
 - **John 10:30** – “I and My Father are one.”
 - We cannot say we believe in the FATHER – but not the SON – they are the same...
 - We cannot say we believe in the SON – but not the SPIRIT – they are the same...
 - We cannot SEPARATE God – we either have God in our HEARTS – or we do NOT!
 - **John 14:23** – “If anyone loves Me ... My Father will love him - and We will come to him and make Our home with him.”

● **2ND – IN WHAT WE KNOW... vs. 20-21**

○ **1ST – The Anointing... vs. 20**

- But you have an anointing from the Holy One - and you know all things!
 - The SECOND reason we should be a LIGHT – because of what we KNOW...
 - There are TWO things John gives us that we KNOW [εἶδω]
- FIRST – we KNOW we have an ANOINTING from the HOLY one...
 - ANOINTING [χρίσμα] – 3x in NT [all of them here] – to pour oil onto someone...
 - What OIL is poured OIL onto us – the HOLY [ἅγιος] – referring to the Holy SPIRIT...
 - OIL in the Bible is used as a picture of the Holy Spirit – He ANOINTS us for MINISTRY!
 - **I Samuel 16:13** – “Samuel took the... oil and anointed [David]... and the Spirit of the LORD came upon [him].”
 - Too often people are just placed in MINISTRY – with disastrous results...
 - Listen if we are serving and feeling - BURNED OUT – if there is no JOY...
 - Then we are very likely in the WRONG place – we are NOT called to do this!
 - Just because there NEED - does not mean we are the ones to step up and HELP...
 - Just because we have certain GIFTS and abilities - does not mean we are QUALIFIED...
 - The question is NOT who has the most talent - or the best ideas...
 - The question is whom has God CALLED - ANOINTED for a work...
 - We will be a LIGHT – when we step out to do what God has ANOINTED us to do!

○ **2ND – The Truth... vs. 21**

- I have not written to you because you do not know the truth...
- But because you know it - and that no lie is of the truth!
- SECOND – we KNOW [εἶδω] - THE [definite article] TRUTH!
- We live in a WORLD that is upside down – a WORLD that does not know God...
- A WORLD where ALL that is evil is good - and ALL that is good is evil...
- When it is a crime in some countries to pray in public places - or bring a Bible into school...
- But where homosexuality – and abortion are protected by the Law!
- **Isaiah 5:20** - “Woe unto them that call evil good - and good evil...”
- The WORLD would love for us to question the TRUTH...
- What is right for you - may not be what is right for me – everything is RELATIVE...
- Event Pontius Pilate famously said to Jesus – what is TRUTH - **John 18:38**
- But it does not matter what MEN say – they are all LIARS – **Romans 3:4**
- The Bible is our ANCHOR in a backwards world – it is the TRUTH!
- **John 17:17** - “Your word is truth.” – also **Psalm 119:160**
- 3RD – BY ABIDING IN HIM... vs. 24-29
 - 1st – Abiding... vs. 24
 - Therefore let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning.
 - If what you heard from the beginning abides in you - you will abide in the Son and in the Father!
 - THEREFORE – in light of Last HOURS we are living in – and because of what we KNOW...
 - We MUST [imperative] - ABIDE in what we have HEARD...
 - ABIDE [μένω] 120x in NT – a word that John REALLY liked – 68x in his FIVE books...
 - The Word means to CLING to something – and never let go!
 - What did we HEAR – in the BEGINNING [ἀρχή] – we heard the WORD [λόγος]
 - **John 1:1** – “In the beginning [ἀρχή] was the Word [λόγος]...”
 - When we ABIDE [present] in the WORD – we will [future] ABIDE in the SON – and Father...
 - Because it is through His WORD [λόγος] – that we have FAITH!
 - **Romans 10:17** – “Faith cometh by hearing - and hearing by the word of God.”
 - If we were asked to defuse a bomb – but also given a book with detailed instructions...
 - How tightly would we hold onto the book – like our lives depended on it!
 - This life is like a bomb – one wrong move and it can blow up on us...
 - But we have been given an instruction manual that will keep us safe...
 - Yet too often our Bibles are just what we bring to church on Sundays...
 - They are only used when we cannot fall asleep at night...
 - We need to CLING to the Bible – because our life does depend on it!
 - 2nd – The promise... vs. 25
 - And this is the promise that He has promised us - eternal life!
 - If we ABIDE in Jesus – we have the PROMISE from God...
 - PROMISE [ἐπαγγέλλομαι] 15x in NT – from the word ANGEL [ἄγγελος] – MESSENGER
 - The MESSAGE we have been given – is we have ETERNAL [αἰώνιος] life!
 - The fact is everyone will live forever - our spirit is eternal...
 - The question we are left to answer - is WHERE will we spend out eternity...
 - For those who REJECT the LIGHT – those who do NOT abide in the WORD...
 - They CHOSE to spend their eternity in hell – because they rejected the hope of the Word!
 - But for those who are in the LIGHT – those who ABIDE in Jesus...
 - Then we are given the PROMISE of HEAVEN – we will be with Jesus always!
 - 3rd – The deception... vs. 26
 - These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you!

- John wrote these THINGS – about the importance of ABIDING in the WORD...
- Because of those who want to DECEIVE us...
- DECEIVE – [πλανάω] – where we get the word PLANET – the WORLD!
- We have to be so careful what we allow to INFLUENCE our lives...
- If we are constantly pumping social media - Hollywood - advertising into our heads...
- Is it no wonder that we are being DECEIVED by this world...
- Instead of being filled with the LIES of the WORLD– we need to be filled with the WORD!
- **Matthew 18:13** – “Jesus answered and said to them - you are DECEIVED [πλανάω] - not knowing the Scriptures.”
- o 4th – The instructor... vs. 27
 - But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you!
 - The ANOINTING [χρῖσμα] we have received from Jesus – ABIDES in us...
 - As we have already noted – the ANOINTING – speaks of the Holy Spirit...
 - The HELPER [παράκλητος] that Jesus sent to us – **John 16:7**
 - **I Corinthians 6:19** – “Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit...”
 - God gives us His Holy Spirit to give us the POWER to take action...
 - When was the last time we experienced God doing something amazing in our lives...
 - We may NEVER have experienced it – because we have no power!
 - **Zechariah 4:6** - “Not by might - nor by power - but by my spirit - says the LORD.”
 - You do not need - anyone teach you - but as the same anointing teaches you all things!
 - We do NOT need anyone to TEACH us – we have THE teacher in us...
 - The ANOINTING [χρῖσμα] - the Holy Spirit who ABIDES in us – He will teach us ALL things!
 - **John 14:26** – “The Holy Spirit... will teach you all things - and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”
 - Have you even been talking about Jesus – and suddenly remember a verse - teaching...
 - That is the ANOINTING – the Holy Spirit working in us!
 - Often we get the mistaken idea we are not able to understand the Word...
 - We need to have someone INTERPRET it for us - EXPLAIN the Word to us...
 - There are plenty of people who are willing to tell us what the Bible means...
 - But the question is are they RIGHT - or is it just their OPINION...
 - God has given each of us His Holy Spirit - HE is the one who will TEACH us...
 - We can be absolutely certain that what the Holy Spirit gives us - it the truth!
 - And is true - and is not a lie - and just as it has taught you - you will abide in Him!
 - The Holy Spirit is TRUTH – He cannot lie – He ONLY speaks the TRUTH...
 - **John 16:3** – “The Spirit of truth has come - He will guide you into all truth.”
 - The TRUTH the Holy Spirit TAUGHT [aorist] us – is to ABIDE in Jesus...
 - **John 15:26** – “When... the Spirit of truth [comes]... He will testify of Me.”
 - Some church today have unusual practices they say come from the Spirit...
 - Where people lay hands on each other and are slain in the Spirit - fall over...
 - I have even heard of churches where people bark like dogs – in the Spirit!
 - We are left to wonder if these things are really from the Spirit of God...
 - While it is true the Holy Spirit does gift us GIFTS – **I Corinthians 12-14**
 - WHAT those gifts are very clearly defined – prophecy - miracles - healing...
 - As well as HOW they are to be used in the church – **I Corinthians 14:40**
 - Most importantly – everything the Spirit does ALWAYS points to Jesus!
- o 5th – The confidence... vs. 28
 - And now - little children - abide in Him!

- Little Children [τεκνίον] – 7x in this letter – someone who is NEW to the FAITH...
- ABIDE [μένω] in Jesus – this is not a suggestion – it is a COMMAND [imperative]
- There are not many commands in I John – less than TEN...
- Yet for the SECOND time in this passage – we are COMMANDED to ABIDE!
- When He appears - we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming!
 - We MUST abide in Jesus – so that we can be [subjunctive] CONFIDENT and not ASHAMED!
 - Jesus gave the parable of the TALENT – **Luke 19:11-27**
 - The Master gave TALENTS to each of His servants – and went away for a LONG time...
 - When we returned – He demanded to know what they had done with their TALENTS...
 - TWO of the servants – had used their TALENTS wisely – and were CONFIDENT...
 - ONE of the servants – was not WISE – and he was ASHAMED when the Master appeared!
 - **Luke 19:21** – “I was afraid because you are a hard man...” [NLT]
 - If Jesus came back TODAY – how would we REACT...
 - Would we be CONFIDENT – exciting to see Him – because are living for Him...
 - Or ASHAMED – embarrassed – because we know have not!
 - If we are ABIDING in Jesus – then we can be CONFIDENT we are using are TALENTS wisely!
- o 6th – The Evidence... vs. 29
 - If you know that He is righteous - you know that everyone...
 - Who practices righteousness is born of Him!
 - If we can SEE [subjunctive] that Jesus is RIGHTEOUS – He is the standard of being GOOD...
 - Then we will SEE [indicative] that everyone who is RIGHTEOUS is – BORN from Him!
 - It has been said the Apple does not fall that far from the tree...
 - You can SEE what family a person comes from – by how they act!
 - The PROOF that we are ABIDING in Jesus – EMPOWERED by the Holy Spirit...
 - Is the GOOD works that come from our life – so that look just like Jesus Christ...
 - We become a LIGHT in a dark world – just as Jesus is the LIGHT of the world!