

Message Notes

October 12, 2025

1 John (1 John 2:18-27 & 4:1-6)

The Test of Doctrine

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- ◆ What we _____ influences how we _____.
- ◆ 1 John _____ what a person of _____ faith looks like.

The Importance and Test of Doctrine

Dear children, the last hour is here. You have heard that the antichrist is coming, and already many such antichrists have appeared. From this we know that the last hour has come. *1 John 2:18*

- ◆ Last hours/last days = the time _____ Jesus' 1st and 2nd coming.
- ◆ _____ = against Jesus. 1 Jn. 2:18, 22, 4:3; 2 Jn. 7

And who is a liar? Anyone who says that Jesus is not the Christ. Anyone who denies the Father and the Son is an antichrist. Anyone who denies the Son doesn't have the Father, either. But anyone who acknowledges the Son has the Father also. *1 John 2:22-23*

- ◆ Christ = Messiah = _____ . Mt. 16:16; Lk. 3:21-22; 4:21
- ◆ Jesus is 100% _____ and 100% _____ (hypostatic union). Jn. 1:14; Phil. 2:5-11; 1 Tim. 2:5
- ◆ Antichrists _____ the person and work of Christ.
- ◆ Test #4: Genuine followers of Jesus _____ Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
- ◆ Jesus is the _____ on which our faith rises and falls. 1 Cor. 3:9-14; Eph. 2:20-21
- ◆ Genuine faith is demonstrated by a _____ relationship and _____ to Jesus (perseverance of the saints). Jn. 8:31, 10:27-30; Phil. 1:6; Col. 1:23; Rev. 14:12
- ◆ The Holy Spirit is _____ with God and Jesus; is given to every believer; and _____ people into all truth. Gen. 1:2; Mt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14
- ◆ Our faith is _____ in the historic teachings of God's Word, and the Holy Spirit will _____ contradict God's Word. Jn. 14:17, 16:13
- ◆ Believing the doctrine of Jesus is the _____ way to live the abundant life now and forever.
- ◆ Who do _____ say that _____? Mt. 16:15; Mk. 8:29

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. 1 John 4:1

Christ-Centered

- Does the teaching clearly proclaim Jesus Christ as fully God and fully human?
- Are the death, resurrection, and atoning work of Christ central?
- Is Christ glorified in the teaching, rather than self, pastor, or church?
- Are faith and obedience oriented toward knowing and following Jesus?

Bible-Based

- Is Scripture treated as the final authority in matters of faith and practice?
- Are interpretations contextual and consistent with the rest of the Bible?
- Is the entire Bible taught or are specific verses handpicked and taken out of context?
- Are the teachings part of historical orthodox Christianity or have they been introduced in recent history (several hundred years)?

Gospel-Accurate

- Does it affirm salvation by grace through faith alone, not by works or human effort?
- Does it acknowledge human sinfulness and our need for repentance?
- Does it encourage spiritual growth and transformation, not just self-improvement?

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