

## 04 - 1 John 2:18-27 – Truth and lies

When is a difference important?

Do you think biblical differences in what people believe about God of the bible should be highlighted and discussed or may be even warned against?

Or should we seek to smoothed over differences in what people believe about God?

Core gospel truths really do matter if they are changed in any way.

### 1) The return of Jesus

1 John 2:18 ... the last hour.

“last hour” and “anti Christ” ... like a child in a lolly factory for some people who like to talk lots about the end of the world.

What did John mean?

... we are in what other biblical authors refer to as the ‘last days’

... wrong to try and take John’s expression to mean we are in the last hour of the last day

The idea of an anti-Christ is simply someone who is against Jesus / against Christ.

So are we in the last hour?

Are there anti-Christes still around today?

Do we still need to watch out, so that we are not lead astray by their false teaching?

### Safe guards in the face of false teaching

1) V 20 ... an ‘anointing’ from the Holy one that enables us to know the truth.

When John refers to the anointing is just referring to the Spirit.

- 1 John 3:24 ... we know truth from the Spirit he gave us,
- 1 John 4:6 ... the Spirit of truth.

Why does John not simply say the Holy Spirit?

a play on words

What does the Spirit, the anointing from the Holy one do?

... helps us know truth and avoid the heresy of the false teachers trying to lead you astray.

2) God’s word and the gospel

... let the truth remain in you.

- the warning

## For us today

### 1) Misusing passages

- a) ... claiming it is wrong to leave a church or a denomination.
- V 19 speaks of the false teachers going out from the church.

b) To quote 1 John 2:27 out of context.

- *As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit—just as it has taught you, remain in him.*

... wrong to claim that this verse says “we do not need anyone to teach us because we have an anointing from God, the Holy Spirit”.

### 2) A battle for truth

... there will be a constant battle with people for truth about fellowship with God as people are anti-Christ