



06 SEPTEMBER 2026 AM

1 John 2:18-21

TRIBE-8

= a close-knit community with shared identity

Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

1 John 2:18

INTRODUCTION

A DESPERATE TIME 2:18-21

- In sermon #6 (1 John 2:12-14) John gave us a **DEVELOPMENT TEST** by which to measure ourselves

...how far have we progressed in our walk with the Lord?

in that passage, John spoke to three groups of people, all at various stages of growth

in order, they are:

children

fathers

young men

- in sermon #7 (1 John 2:15-17), John showed us a **DEVILISH TWIST**...what satan's tactics are and the result from being deceived by them
- with all of that in mind, John writes to us this morning with a warning to be fully aware of the time...and of the truth

we are living in the last days...TIME

we are equipped to know the TRUTH

light & darkness

love & hatred

1. WHAT TIME IS IT? **verses 18-19**

Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

LITTLE CHILDREN

John used this term in **2:12-13**...it refers to small children who are still at home under the authority of their parents

FATHERS do not need to be warned...
they have known him from the beginning **2:13**

YOUNG MEN do not need to be warned...
they are strong and have over-come
the wicked one **2:14**

LAST TIME

the word *time* is figurative and is also translated as *season, day, hour*

what are the marks of those last days?

1 John 2:8 ...because the darkness is past,
and the true light now shineth.

Romans 13:11-12

And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

see also **1 Thessalonians 5:1-9**

 **1 Timothy 4:1-3**

 **2 Timothy 3:1-5**

NOTE: while I always read, study, and preach from the King James Bible, it is enlightening to consider the ESV translation...

But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.

how often do you stop and look around at the world in which you live...do you consider the conditions???

John says that Antichrist *will come*

other titles given to this antichrist:

the idol shepherd	Zechariah 11:17
the little horn	Daniel 8:9
the willful king	Daniel 11:36-39
the lawless one	2 Thess 2:8
man of sin	verses 1-2
son of perdition	verse 3
the false prophet	Revelation 13:11-15

NOTE: the term *antichrist* has two meanings:

anti - against Christ

anti - in the place of Christ

John says antichrists are already here

he is the only NT author to use this title

this is the 'spirit of antichrist' in 4:3

this spirit is the putting of man in the place of God and His Christ

humanism (the woke agenda)

the pope = the vicar of Christ

vicar = substitute

and John tells us antichrists are not hidden

verse 19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

John is referring to those who are different **doctrinally**...they seek to stir up strife in the church

three marks to identify them:

1. he is a liar 2:22
2. he denies God and Jesus are the same 2:23
3. he denies Jesus came in the flesh 4:3

Hebrews 10:29

Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

see also **Hebrews 6:4-6**

the fact that they departed was proof they were never really saved

consider **Judas**

👉 **John 13:21-27, 30**

it is interesting how many cults are off-shoots from the Christian Church

Joseph Smith...Puritan, Universalist

Jim Jones...Pentecostalism

David Koresh...Southern Baptist, Adventist

2. WHAT TRUTH IS THERE? verses 20-21

But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things. I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.

WE HAVE AN UNCTION

unction = (*chrisma*) anointing

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.

this is the promise of the Holy Spirit

John 14:26 ...he shall teach you all things

John 16:13 ...he will guide you in all truth

the Holy Spirit uses the Word to teach us

John 17:17 ...thy word is truth

Hebrews 4:12 ...a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart

again, cults always take the Word of God and distort it, taking away from it the words they use to deceive

NOTE: ...because ye know it we know all things *potentially*. The Spirit will guide us and help us to recognize error. Compare with putting a jigsaw puzzle together without the box lid to guide you

WE HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING

Philippians 3:1

Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe.

2 Peter 1:12

Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth.

when he was younger, Chandler had a habit of asking me, 'Dad, who's right?'

I love that!

we should be in the same habit with our Heavenly Father

James 1:5

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Proverbs 2:3-6

Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; if thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.