

FIRST JOHN 2:18-23

John now warns them about the “antichrists.” It would behoove us to pay very close attention to what he has to say about them...



¹⁸ Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour. ¹⁹ They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us. ²⁰ But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth. ²¹ I do not write to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and because no lie comes from the truth. ²² Who is the liar? It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a man is the antichrist--he denies the Father and the Son. ²³ No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also. ²⁴ See that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father.

Notice that John speaks of many “antichrists” who had already come. What does he tell us about them?

Though these aren’t spawns of the devil, they are his “pawns” and are like him in at least a couple ways. How so?

What does John suggest is our greatest defense about these people? And who is our greatest defender?

John also refers to a single “antichrist” whom they were expecting. Who might this be?

FIRST JOHN 2:24-29

Next, John expounds on “an anointing” they had received. Read his words carefully...

²⁵ And this is what He promised us--even eternal life. ²⁶ I am writing these things to you about those who are trying to lead you astray. ²⁷ 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. ²⁸ And now, dear children, continue in Him, so that when He appears we may be confident and unashamed before Him at His coming. ²⁹ If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been born of Him.

John writes of “an anointing” that his readers had received from their Father. What is it?

How were they to make sure “this anointing” remained in them?

What would be evidence of “this anointing” in them?

Points to Ponder

*Are their antichrists in the world today?
Do you have “an anointing” from God? How do you know?*

