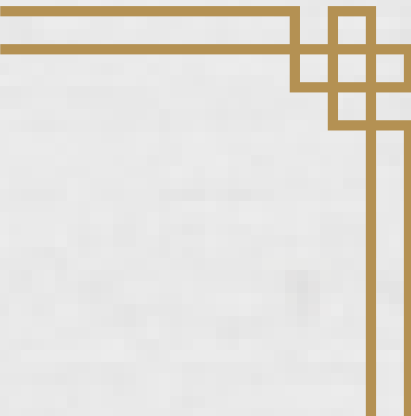
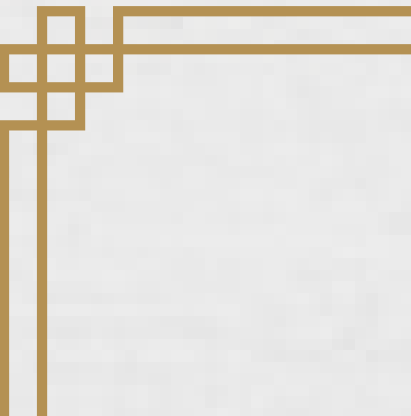
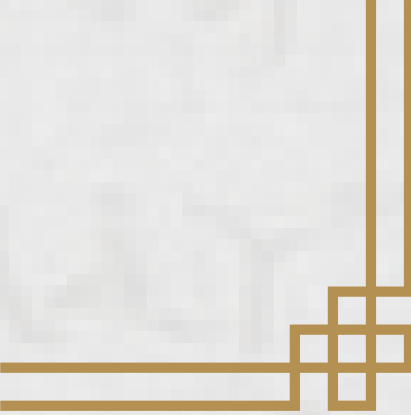
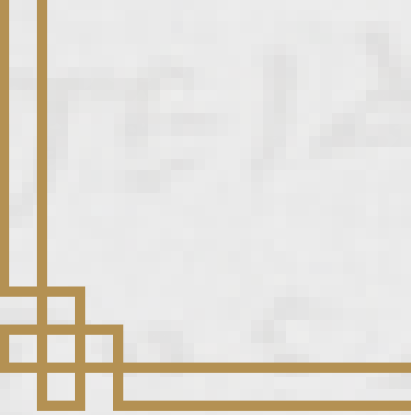




1 John

An Exegetical Series

**1 John 2:18-28: Remain in the Truth During
the Last Hour**



Summary of 1 John 2:18-19, 22-23

- John warned that false teachers ("antichrists") revealed their true nature by abandoning the apostolic faith and denying the true identity of Jesus Christ. They went out from the church because they were never truly of the church to begin with
- ➔ **The Challenge:** What is the foundation of my belief in Christ? My own interpretation of what I think or the foundation of the Apostles who heard, saw, and touched Christ, the Word of Life (1 John 1:1-3)?

1 John

1 John 2:20-21, 24-27

Remain in the Truth During the Last Hour:

Part 2: Remaining in the Apostolic Gospel

Opening Question

- If someone asked you, "How do you know your understanding of Jesus is the right one?" what would you say?
- Imagine trusted leaders from your church left and began teaching a different Jesus. What questions might that raise in your own mind?

The “Anointing”

1. You have the “Anointing”
 2. The “Anointing” and its relationship to the true Christian
- ➡ Our Goal is to understand the nature of this so-called **anointing** and what it does in the life of the one who walks in the light of God, cleansed of sin (1 John 1:7, 9)—this is the key to understanding this section

First—a Few Simple Interpretations

John's Confidence (v. 21)

- ▶ Again, John is confident in his audience that they do know the truth, which, in context, is truth regarding the nature and person of Christ and the Gospel (v. 22-23)

John's Continued Call to Persevere (v. 24-26)

- ▶ Believe the Gospel and truths about who Christ is (1 John 1:1-3)—if we do so, God's own promise to us is eternal life (John 3:16—the believing ones; see also John 15 and Abiding/Remaining in Christ, the Vine)

What is the “Anointing”?

Textually, Grammatically

- ▶ Play on words—John is being fun and serious at the same time, here!
- ▶ The Anointing in the Greek is “Chrisma” which underlies both Christ (Christos) and anointing (Chrio)—Chrisma becomes a play on words
- ▶ This is contrasted to those who are the “antichrists” and believed, in a sense, that they had special knowledge about Christ which is why they denied what John

What is the “Anointing”?

Theologically

- ▶ The implication is deep—the defectors from the faith are called antichrists and claim special knowledge to make assertions about Christ
- ▶ John contrasts his audience, and the truth they know, as both being one’s who have an anointing of true knowledge from the “Holy One” or from Jesus Christ Himself—we could infer, then, that “anointing” refers to *true* knowledge from/of Jesus Christ in one sense

The Anointing Remains In You

Interestingly, John Refers to the Anointing Personally (v. 27)

- ▶ This anointing is from Jesus and *it* remains in us
- ▶ The Anointing also teaches us all things, does not lie, and is true
- ▶ This could be something other than the Gospel message of the truth of Jesus Christ...but what else could it be?

➡ The Holy Spirit!

The Gospel or the Holy Spirit?

Looking to John's Gospel — John 14:15-17, 23-25

- ▶ John 14:15-17

- ▶ John 14:23-25

➡ The implication is clear here! It is the Holy Spirit who is the one who remains in us because he reminds us of the things “I have told you,” in the Words of Christ. That is, the Holy Spirit confirms in us, as our comforter and counselor, the truth of who Jesus is and of the Gospel in light of who Jesus is!

The Anointing and the Christian

In Context

- ▶ This anointing teaches the truth of the message (1 John 1:1-3) to those who continue to believe in that original, apostolic message
- ▶ Antichrists claim to know the “Christ” in a way contrary to the apostolic Gospel and John says this is incorrect
- ▶ The way we know for sure is through the Anointing who has taught us truth when we encounter it by way of God’s Revelation!

Applying the Truth

There is a Truth that Unites All Christians

- ▶ The core of the Christian faith is the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the person of God, and specifically of who Jesus is as the God-Man.
- ▶ That is, all Christians believe in the Gospel of Jesus' life, death, burial, and resurrection as atonement and propitiation and all true Christians believe in the Triune God and that Jesus is the God-Man—Scripture testifies to us about these things

Applying the Truth

There is a Truth that Unites All Christians

- ▶ The Holy Spirit reminds us of these truths and convicts us with an unwavering belief about them
- ▶ Yes, Christians differ on many things (i.e., Predestination/Free Will, End Times, Age of Accountability, The amount we tithe, how church government is structured, having tattoos vs. not/drinking alcohol vs. not, etc...) but we do not differ on the primary issues—the Spirit confirms this in us!

For Further Study

See these Scriptures to go deeper in study:

- ▶ John 14
- ▶ John 15
- ▶ John 16
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 2

➡ These chapters teach about God's revelation, the role of the Holy Spirit, and how we are to respond to God's revelation as the Spirit works in us

Closing Questions

- * In a culture that constantly asks us to reinterpret Jesus, are we allowing Scripture to shape our understanding of Christ, or are we allowing the culture to reshape Christ according to our preferences?

Remember: The Spirit does not lead us beyond the Apostolic Gospel—rather, he leads us deeper into it. Therefore, our confidence is not found in discovering a new Jesus or abandoning the biblical Jesus, but in remaining with the Christ who has been faithfully proclaimed from the beginning.

1 John

1 John 2:20-21, 24-27

Remain in the Truth During the Last Hour:

Part 2: Remaining in the Apostolic Gospel