

Sermon Notes for September 10, 2006

Morning: “Living Hope in the Last Hour” I John 2:18-28, I John 2:7 (Pew Bible page 1082)
(Joy for the Journey)

The term “antichrist” is used by the Holy Spirit only in I and II John. The very word “antichrist” shocks the believer that there is such an evil force in the world which “**opposes**” Christ and wishes to be a “**substitute**” for Christ. The Holy Spirit says there is one Antichrist to come and many forerunner antichrists in the world today. Current events in the Middle East cause us to study our Bible and prepare for the Lord’s Coming.

In three messages on the Anti-Christ, we shall study

- The **Religion** of the Anti-Christ— I John 2:18-29; II John
- The **Revelation** of the Anti-Christ— II Thessalonians 2:1-7 (1051)
- The **Rise** and Fall of the Anti-Christ— Revelation 13:1-8 (1096)

- I. In the last hour **A Person** of **Darkness** will arise after the Church departs— I John 2:18; II John 7; II Thessalonians 2:8; Revelation 13:1, 13:4

The Antichrist, Son of Perdition, Wicked One, the Beast are Bible names for this final incarnation of Satan.

- Sin must run its course—I John 2:18a “Children; it is the last hour, and as you heard that **antichrist** is coming.” “The sin of man will eventuate in the man of sin.”
- The spirit of the antichrist is at work in many antichrists today. I John 2:18b “So now many **antichrists** have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour.”

- II. In this last hour **Principles** of **Deception** will invade the Church— I John 2:19:22

- The antichrist spirit works to **invade** the body of Christ. I John 2:19 “They went out from us, but they were not of us . . .”
- The antichrist spirit will first of all **attack** the doctrine of Christ. I John 2:22 “Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.”

- III. In this last hour **Protection** until **That Day** will assure the Church— I John 2:20-29

- We rely on the **anointing** of the Holy Spirit to protect and teach us. I John 2:20-22 “But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge.”
- We rely on the **simplicity** of the Gospel to direct and inspire us. I John 2:23-24 (KJV); II Corinthians 11:3 (NIV) “Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also. Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you . . . Abide in the Son and in the Father.”
- We rely on the **fruitfulness** which abiding in Christ gives. I John 2:26-27; John 15:4 “But the anointing that you received from Him abides in you and you have no need that anyone should teach you . . . Abide in Him.”
- We rely in the **assurance** of union with Him at His appearing. I John 2:28-29 “So that when He appears we may have confidence and not shrink in shame at His coming.”