**Day 12 - Spirit of Deception**

1 John 2:18-23

1. We have spent the past 2 lessons considering “something” that can hinder our fellowship with God. What is it?

2. Now, in our lesson today, John deals with an attack on our relationship with God. What is it?

3. Read verses 18-19. Then, answer the questions below.

What hour is it according to verse 18?

What expectancy does it bring? (v18)

What is the proof it is the last hour?

Who is coming? (v18)

Who has already come? (v18)

Where have these antichrists come from and where have the gone?

The fact that they went out from them reveals what?

“Anti” in antichrist means “the opposite of” or “instead of”. The Anti-Christ to come, is more of an “instead of” Jesus. The anti-christs here and up to the present time can be translated both ways.

4. John tells us something important about these antichrists in 1 John 4:3. What is it?

Spirit of antichrist is a false spirit as opposed to the Spirit of truth.

5. What does verse 20 say?

To get a greater understanding of the meaning, check out these verses.

John 14:17

John 15:26

Know is the Greek word “eido” – means to know intuitively. John is saying because of the Spirit of truth in the believer, you know these are false teachers (Gnostics).

6. Did those John was writing to know the truth?

Yet, they were in danger of succumbing to the lies.

7. Read verses 22-23. In your own words, what do these verses say?

There are not many ways to heaven. And if you deny the Son you don’t have the Father either. All cults have their roots in the Gnostic heresy because all of them diminish the Son.

**Application:** There are so many ways this can play out; so many ways we will be face to face with those who have the “spirit of antichrist”. Do you see this spirit active today in Christianity… in your church… in your life. Remember, John was concerned for those who knew the truth. So, what is the message to us… to you. Take time to write down some thoughts. End this lesson in pray, asking God to help you stand strong in the truth of His Word… ask Him to give you discernment in all things. Remember, the Bible tells us God honor’s His Word above His name!