

1 John 2:21-25 ²¹ *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.* ²² *Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.* ²³ *Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: (but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.* ²⁴ *Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father.* ²⁵ *And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life.*

1. Introduction

a. Church age

- i. Church age began on Day of Pentecost (Acts chapter 2)
- ii. But future time when earth cheers the final Antichrist spoken of in book of Revelation

2 Thessalonians 2:3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

iii. Last days of church age

- a) John the apostle speaks of spirit of antichrist
- b) Time of increasing apostasy

Jude 1:17-18 ¹⁷ But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; ¹⁸ How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts.

c) People turning away from the truth

James 4:17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

d) Time of apathy

e) Many claim to be spiritual or “person of faith”

f) Problem of worshipping the created things rather than the Creator

Romans 1:23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things.

- iv. Movement for “global ethic”
 - a) Formed with assembly of many religious faiths
 - b) Compromise on doctrines or teachings
 - c) Many agendas & social issues
 - d) Future movement towards one world church

b. Christian focus

- i. Jesus asks the question, “Who do men say that I am?”

Mark 8:27 And Jesus went out, and his disciples, into the towns of Caesarea Philippi: and by the way he asked his disciples, saying unto them, Whom do men say that I am?

- ii. Time for Christian to keep the faith

Jude 1:3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

2. Availability of Truth (verse 21)

a. By the prophets

- i. Prophets wrote Old Testament

Hebrews 1:1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

- ii. Peter mentions God’s holy words by prophets & Jesus apostles

2 Peter 3:1-2 ¹ This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: ² That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:

b. By preaching of the apostles

- i. John wrote about knowing the truth

- ii. God spoke the central truth of the gospel

Hebrews 1:2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

- iii. Truth about Jesus Christ written in the four gospels

Acts 1:1 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

iv. Early Christians continued in preaching of apostles' doctrine
Acts 2:42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

v. Peter wrote of Paul's writing after Paul's death
2 Peter 3:15-16 ¹⁵ And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; ¹⁶ As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

c. By the written Scriptures

- i. In John's time, most of New Testament already written
- ii. Christian can know truth from the written Bible
- iii. Christian wants Bible based convictions in their heart
- iv. Christian born again by the word of God

1 Peter 1:23-24 ²³ Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever. ²⁴ For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

d. When New Testament Scriptures written

- i. 31 AD: Jesus promised the Holy Spirit (John chapter 14-17)
- ii. 55 AD: Paul begins writing his letters to the Gentile churches
- iii. 66 AD: Peter refers to Paul's church letters
- iv. 85-95 AD: John the apostle writes his gospel & book of Revelation

3. Adversaries of Truth (verses 22-23)

a. Biblical truth

- i. Jesus is the Christ

Acts 2:36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

- ii. Jesus did not know any sin

2 Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

- iii. Jesus is the truth

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

- iv. Salvation is about believing Jesus
- b. Adversaries of Biblical truth
 - i. Adversaries are enemies of Biblical truth
 - ii. Deny unity of God the Father & God the Son

John 10:30-31 ³⁰ I and my Father are one. ³¹ Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him.
 - iii. Deny deity of Jesus Christ

1 Timothy 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

1 Corinthians 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.
 - iv. Deny humanity of Jesus Christ

1 John 4:3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.
 - v. Deny Jesus is Messiah (verse 22)
 - vi. Many religious people do not believe Jesus

John 8:24 I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.
 - vii. Many antichrists exist throughout church history (verse 18)
- c. Many antichrists
 - i. Demons also believe that there is one God, but not saved

James 2:19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.
 - ii. Doctrines (teachings) of demons

1 Timothy 4:1-2 ¹ Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; ² Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;
 - iii. Satan / Devil father of lies & murderer from the beginning

John 8:44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

iv. Natural mortal man does not receive God's things

1 Corinthians 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

v. Typical lies of demons

- a) Jesus only a myth & did not exist
- b) Jesus only a good man
- c) Jesus great moral teacher
- d) Jesus religious prophet only
- e) Jesus only a man & did not do any miracles

d. Final Antichrist

- i. Little horn of 4th beast in Daniel's visions – Daniel 7:8,11, 20-21, 24-25,
- ii. Little horn of great ram in Daniel's visions – Daniel 8:9-12,
- iii. Prince who is to come in Daniel's visions – Daniel 9:26-27
- iv. Abomination of Desolation in Daniel's visions – Daniel 11:31, 12:11
- v. Man of Sin, Son of Perdition – 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4
- vi. Lawless One – 2 Thessalonians 2:8-9
- vii. Beast from Bottomless Pit – Revelation 11:7
- viii. Satan in great wrath & anger – Revelation 12:3, 9, 12
- ix. Satan power behind final Antichrist -Revelation 13:4
- x. Beast out of the sea – Revelation 13:1, 3, 14-16, 18
- xi. Beast that was, is not, and yet is – Revelation 17:8
- xii. Final doom of Beast – Revelation 19:20

4. Advancement of Truth (verses 24-25)

a. Call to abide in Christ?

- i. Keep & guard the truth of God
- ii. Always compare any person's teaching with Bible Scripture
- iii. Keep truth inside you to prevent turning away from God (apostasy)

b. Call to abide in truth

- i. Bible truth never changes

ii. Christian has promise of the Holy Spirit:

a) Promised by Jesus

Luke 24:49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

b) Holy Spirit came because Jesus returned to heaven

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

c) Holy Spirit to stay with Christian forever

John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever;

d) Christian has received Spirit of Truth

John 15:26 But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

e) Keep Jesus' words inside you

John 15:7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

c. Abide eternally in truth

i. Where God & Scriptures speak, anything opposite are lies

ii. Deity & humanity of Jesus not open to negotiation

iii. One of Jesus name is Emmanuel (meaning God with us)

Matthew 1:23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

iv. Salvation is only in Jesus name

Acts 4:10, 12 ¹⁰ Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. ... ¹² Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

v. God's salvation is in Jesus blood of the everlasting covenant

Hebrews 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,

vi. Christians are people of conviction