



MAY 13

Passage: 1 John 2:18-27

READ & DIG. Read 1 John 2:18-27

Remember what we learned yesterday. John showed us where our love should be set. On whom it should be set and that is none other than God.

Here are some things that jump out to me.

WARNING! (vv.18-21)

John transitions from yesterday's warning of loves, into a section where he warns the recipients of his letter about the antichrist that is coming. Now, you may be thinking "antichrist?! What in the world is that? That sounds terrifying!" Well it is terrifying, but here is a good note from my study Bible defining what an antichrist is. They say, "an antichrist is anyone who denies that Jesus is the Christ." That may make this sound not so scary if you were picturing some beastly looking person, but it is actually the scariest thing in the world. To deny that Jesus is the Christ is the greatest evil ever committed! John is warning these folks (and us) that the antichrist is a liar and has no truth in him. We know the truth, we know that Jesus is the Christ, and that he is our only hope in life and death!

LIES VS TRUTH (vv.22-25)

John lays out what the qualifiers are for those that have believed in a lie and those that have believed **the** truth. He says that a liar rejects that Jesus is the Christ, the promised Messiah from the Father. And John goes on to say those that reject Jesus is the Christ, they don't get the Father. What does this teach us? That our relationship with the Father is only through Christ. It's a package deal and we can't separate the two. John wrote about this in his gospel, "No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6b) There's so much hope for us as Christians in this truth. Through Jesus, we have an everlasting relationship with the Father. John tells us that if we abide in the truth of the gospel, then we will abide in the Son and the Father. This brings us to eternal life.

ABIDE (vv.26-28)

John finishes this with a plea to abide in the truth we have received. There is nothing that we need outside of this relationship with the Father and the Son. It lacks nothing. There is nothing to be gained outside of this relationship, so the proper response is to abide there. Abide in the truth. Abide in relationship with the Father and the Son.

Apply & GO

So, what now? What do we do with this? Always remember. God's Word means what it means. There is no "what does this mean to you, and to you, and to you." That's wrong. The Bible means what it means. How we apply it may be different, specifically. It means what it means.

SO...let me ask you. What will you do after hearing this truth?

What can we learn about God? What can we learn about His Word?

What can we learn about the confidence we have in God and in His Word?