



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

1 JOHN 2:26-27 – ABIDE IN CHRIST!

WYOMING

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The result of abiding in Christ is a continuing reality of fellowship, shared life with God and the supreme blessing of eternal life promised by Christ Himself, a promise made to us personally...life forever with Him. A life with no end.

We live as John did...in the last hour. We live in a fallen world that is perishing. It is filled with those who oppose Christ as the Son of God. The world is full of deceivers and they are in the church. May we be watchful and abide in Him.

I. ABIDE IN CHRIST! 1 JOHN 2:26-27

(26) "These things I have written to you concerning those who are trying to deceive you. (27) And as for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him." 1 John 2:26-27

Once again, John warns believers to be on guard for those who are all about trying to deceive Christians and to keep near and close to Jesus Christ.

A. "THOSE WHO ARE TRYING TO DECEIVE YOU..." - 1 JOHN 2:26

We must never underestimate the strength or subtlety of the deceivers, the antichrists. John continues to warn that there is great danger from deceivers.

"deceive, seduce" Greek "**planao**" lead astray, seduce.

John characterizes these antichrists as those who seduce you, trying to deceive and lead astray believers. And they will persist even if they are not effective. They will continue to try and are tireless in their effort to deceive. John doesn't underestimate their persistence and wants believers to be continually on guard against their deceptive efforts.¹

Why does John continue to shout the warning bell? Maybe you can think of a number of examples where believers give way, maybe a little at first, but give way to sin and temptation. We are talking Christians who seem so strong in their faith yet give way to deceptions and lies. It happens all around us, even to those who you would think they could never give in or fall. John continues to sound the warning to beware, beware of those who are trying to seduce you.

False teachers persist in trying to mislead believers as Matthew 24:24 and John 10:4-5 demonstrate, but though they can

mislead and cause great confusion, they can never take away the faith that secures them to Christ or to the eternal life that belongs to them. (John 10:27-29)

Keep near and close to Christ! Abide in the things you have learned and have been taught and then you will abide in Christ.

B. THE HOLY SPIRIT...A STRONG DEFENSE AGAINST DECEPTION - 1 JOHN 2:27A

Though there are those, who are trying to lead you astray, John reminds his readers that they have the Holy Spirit, Who is a strong defense against deception.

Because the Holy Spirit indwells every believer from the moment they become a Christian and thus He enables them to discern error, the believer can resist the deceivers. John reiterates the truths he taught in 1 John 2:20-21, that the Holy Spirit gives to each Christian a knowledge of the truth which is found in God's Word, to discern error.² The only sure safeguard against heresy and the only sure defense we have is both the Word from which we learn and the Holy Spirit Who teaches it to us. And have no worries, the Holy Spirit is beyond competent.

So we see that we have two safeguards against error, the Word of God and the Holy Spirit. Some may honor the Word of God and neglect the Word out of which He teaches. The only safeguard against lies is to have both abiding in us. The Word we heard from the beginning and the anointing, the Holy Spirit. It is only by these two that we are able to abide in the truth.³

Note again that John isn't saying that they don't need to be taught by anyone because they have all knowledge. Rather when John says, "*all things*", this must be kept in context. This isn't referring to all things to be taught, rather all things that John has taught such as about Christ, His Incarnation, God the Son, God the Father etc. Through the inward work and witness of the Holy Spirit coupled with the Word of God, these combine to illuminate the believer to truth. These are both thoroughly comprehensive and infallibly true.

The illuminating work of the Holy Spirit with the Word of God give a firm and fixed understanding of who God is. And there is truth and no lie in what the Spirit teaches about what has been heard from the beginning. It is complete and thorough, all comprehensive. The work of the Holy Spirit and

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the Word of God is sufficient in and of itself, a teaching that needs no corroboration from anyone. The Holy Spirit has Divine self-evidencing powers and the gospel is its own witness, it carries itself with authority. And it is by the Holy Spirit that the gospel is so applied and brought home to us!⁴

C. ABIDE IN CHRIST - 1 JOHN 2:27B

And so the Holy Spirit dwells, abides in us to help keep God and eternity as realities still and ever before us. Therefore, in our deepest trials and our darkest hours, the Holy Spirit coupled with His Word, causes us to fall back on Him.

The deceivers, the antichrists can be resisted as the Holy Spirit teaches all things. Christ dwells in us and we are to abide in Him, to keep our hearts continually in the truth concerning Christ. It is by the Word and the Holy Spirit that we can abide in the truth and remain in Christ.

“abide” Greek **“menelo”** let it be at home, operative in your life, let that message have its course in your life.

Take personal and active participation in letting Christ be at home in you and at work in your life. Take personal responsibility to cooperate with His work in you. As we abide in Christ, John assures every believer the result of His Divine message abiding in us is the continuing reality of communion, fellowship, and a shared life with God.

The result of abiding in Christ is a continuing reality of fellowship, a shared life with God and the supreme blessing of eternal life promised by Christ Himself, a promise made to us personally...life forever with Him. A life with no end.

Let Christ be at home and operative in your life. Let His message have its course in your life. Abide in Him. Keep close and near to Christ, every day, every hour and every moment.

We live in a fallen world that is perishing. It is filled with those who oppose Christ as the Son of God. The world is full of deceivers and they are in the church. May we be watchful and abide in Him.

¹ Hiebert, D. Edmond, *The Epistles of John: An Expository Commentary*. Bob Jones University Press: Greenville, SC, 1991. Pg. 121.

² Hiebert, D. Edmond, *The Epistles of John: An Expository Commentary*. Bob Jones University Press: Greenville, SC, 1991. Pg. 122.

³ Stott, John R., *The Epistles of John*. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company: Grand Rapids, MI, 1964, Pg 115..

⁴ Candlish, Robert S., *A Commentary on 1 John*. (1st Published 1866), Banner of Truth, London. 1973. Pg. 244-245.