

Message #10**I John 2:24-27**

In every dispensation there have been people who life themselves up as being great teachers who do get a following. Back in John's day the Gnostics did it. Many of the people who were leading these studies had gone out from the church (I John 2:19).

THE BELIEVER WHO WILL GROW INTO DEEP FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD WILL BE ONE WHO ABIDES IN THE TRUTH WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN TAUGHT IN CHURCH AND WILL ABIDE IN A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Now you will observe from these verses that the word "abide" shows up five times—three times in **verse 24** and two times in **verse 27**. The word "abide" is the idea of staying put. Staying, remaining and abiding in a particular place or condition (G. Abbott-Smith, p. 284).

THOUGHT #1 – Stay put in the truth you have been taught from the beginning. **2:24**

The verb "heard" refers to the totality of the instruction that they have received. Ever since these Asian believers had heard truth about Jesus Christ and the Word of God, there had been a consistency to it. Ever since the apostles had taught about Jesus Christ, they taught He was God in the flesh (John 1:14, 18; Col. 1:19). It is no coincidence that the Son is mentioned before the Father, for the Son is the key to having a relationship with the Father (John 14:6).

THOUGHT #2 – Stay put in the promise that you have eternal life by faith in Christ Himself. **2:25**

This hope that we have eternal life in Jesus Christ comes not from what we wish but what He promised. The promise that Jesus Christ made to us is that He is eternal life. He has promised that if anyone will believe only in Him to save them from their sins, He will save them. By the way, I want you to notice what life—"eternal life." Not temporal. You tamper with the doctrine of eternal security and you are tampering with the promise that Christ Himself made.

THOUGHT #3 – Stay in the written Scriptures in view of the deceivers. **2:26**

The word "deceiver" is one that describes an imposter who is able to deceive and lead astray. The word implies a careful seduction from one who appears to be real (Smith, p. 363).

THOUGHT #4 – Stay close to the Spirit of God in view of the deceivers. **2:27**

There are two things God gives to every believer that can keep them in close fellowship with God in the midst of a bunch of heretics: 1) The written Word of God; 2) the indwelling Spirit of God.

In Hebrew thought, the idea of anointing had reference to three special O.T. groups of people:

- 1) Priests were anointed (Ex. 29:7);
- 2) Kings were anointed (I Sam. 9:16; 16:3);
- 3) Prophets were anointed (I Kings 19:16).

There is a special anointing which a believer receives directly from God and one that remains “in” the believer which is the Spirit of God.

- 1) The Holy Spirit continually remains in the believer. **2:27a**

The Holy Spirit truly does remain in the believer habitually and continually. This is N.T. doctrine that is pure Grace Age. In the O.T. the Holy Spirit could come upon someone and then leave; but in the N.T. age, there is no chance of that happening. This abiding is continual.

- 2) The Holy Spirit continually teaches the believer. **2:27b**

When John says that you have no need for anyone to teach you, he is not saying you do not need those gifted of God to instruct you in the things of God. In fact, he just said I am writing this to you because you do need this (**2:26**). Paul also said that pastor/teachers were a gift from God to His Church (Eph. 4:11-12). What John is saying is that you do not need anything beyond understanding of the written Word to grow. The Holy Spirit will always allow you to grasp the written Word of God and when you are taught the written Word of God, you don't need anything else.

You do not need philosophy. You do not need psychology. You do not need sociology. What you need is Bibliology. What you need is to understand the written Word of God. What you need is to regularly go to Church where the Word of God is taught and listen and learn and allow God's Spirit to develop you. That is what we all need.

- 3) The Holy Spirit will always promote what is true, not what is false. **2:27c**

The Holy Spirit will always lead you to understand what is true according to the Word, not what is false.

The reason why some people stick to sound doctrine and blossom deep is because of the wonderful ministry of the Holy Spirit. You have a church that is totally focused on teaching you God's written Word. You have the Holy Spirit who is totally focused on you understanding God's written Word. You don't need anything else! This is what you need and this is all you need.