BOOK OF 1 JOHN
Lesson #6 - The Antichrist
Scripture Reading: 1 John 2:18-23

Introduction:
1. Some swindle others out of money; others deceive spiritually.
2. We must not fall for the deceptions of the Antichrist.

I. THE IDENTITY OF THE ANTICHRIST
   A. THOSE WHO REJECT JESUS COMING IN THE FLESH
      1. Some who were among the disciples strayed -vs. 19
      2. They denied Jesus coming in the flesh -1Jn 4:2, 3
   
   B. THOSE WHO REJECT JESUS AS CHRIST (vs. 22, 23)
      1. The Gnostics claimed Jesus and Christ were two different people
         a. They claim: Christ appeared to have flesh, but did not.
         b. They claim: Christ descended on Jesus after His baptism and left Jesus before His suffering. (Note the sayings on the cross to disprove this)
      2. The Gnostics denied both Father and Son
         a. He became flesh and dwelt among us -Jn1:14
         b. To deny Jesus is to deny the Father -Jn 13:20
      3. Today, the Antichrist is anyone who rebels against biblical teaching.

II. DEFENSE AGAINST THE ANTICHRIST -vs. 24-27
   A. DURING THE TIME OF WRITING
      1. They were anointed with the Holy Spirit -vs. 20-21, 27
      2. They had the gifts of the Spirit to know all things -vs. 20
      3. Yet, they still needed encouragement to continue in the faith -vs. 26

   B. OUR DAY
      1. We do not have the gifts of the Spirit today.
      2. We do however, have the complete word of God to guide us in all truth -He 4:12, Ep 6:17, Jude 3, 2 Timothy 3:16, 17
      3. Today, we still need encouragement from one another to continue fighting the good fight of faith.

Conclusion:
1. Our solution for today; let the message heard from the beginning abide in you. -vs. 24
2. We are living in the last hour today -2Pe 3:8, 9. Therefore, we focus on the word of God and the path of righteousness set before us.

Eric Hicks