

July 10, 2022

The Bridge Bible Fellowship

Pastor Paul S. Brown

1 John 2:18-27

Doctrinal Test #1: Abiding in the Truth – Part 2

- I. Prologue [Introduction] – 1:1-4
- II. Tests of Genuine Fellowship: Cycle (Spiral) #1 – 1:5-2:27
 - A. The Moral Test – 1:5-2:6
 - B. The Social Test – 2:7-17
 - C. The Doctrinal Test – 2:18-27**
 - 1. True Christians Joyfully Abide in a Biblical Church (18-19)
 - 2. **True Christians Joyfully Abide in the Biblical Gospel (20-25)**
 - a. **The Anointing (20-21) - ²⁰ But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all know. ²¹ I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it, and because no lie is of the truth.**

So What?

Discussion and Application:

1. The question is frequently asked, “**There are a lot of religions in the world, and it seems like they all claim to be true. How do we know for sure that Christianity is the right one?**” How would you answer that question? What evidence do we have that Christianity is the right and only way to God?
2. What is “**assurance**”? Can a person have assurance that they are going to heaven but not truly be going to heaven? Can a person experience doubt that they are going to heaven but truly be going to heaven? What are some wrong reasons people (cults, world religions) might claim to have assurance that they are going to heaven? Why do many religions say that you can’t know for sure that you will go to heaven when you die?
3. What is **joy**? Is there a difference between joy and happiness? What is the connection between assurance of eternal life and joy? On a scale of 1 to 10, how joyful are you most of the time? How might a deeper understanding of assurance of salvation raise that number?
4. The Apostle John uses the word **anointing** in 1 John 2:20, 27. Answer the following questions (use Scripture)
 - What is the anointing? (Is. 61:1; Acts 4:27; 10:38; Lk. 3:22; Jn. 1:32; 3:34; 1 Pet. 2:9; 2 Cor. 1:19-22; 1 Jn. 4:13)
 - Who has the anointing?
 - Who is “the Holy One” who anoints us?
 - When do we receive the anointing? (1 Jn. 2:20, 27; Ezek. 36:25-27; Jn. 14:17; Rom. 8:9)
 - What is the relationship between the anointing and our ability to understand the truth of the Gospel? (Jn. 8:42-47; 1 Cor. 2:11-14; 2 Cor. 4:3-6; Acts 26:18)
5. 1 John 2:20 (NASB) says that the result of the anointing is that “**you all know**” (KJV = “ye know all things”). What is it that the anointing enables us to know? Is that a guarantee that we will know everything about everything? Is it a promise that we will know everything about God and His plans? (See Deut. 29:29; Acts 1:7) If not, what specifically is it that the anointing enables us to know? How does John’s mention of “**the truth**” in verse 21 help you answer these questions? Does verse 21 mean that the anointing enables us to understand all truth in the universe or some specific truth? What truth is he talking about in the context?
6. John contrasts lies with the truth in verse 21. He gets more specific by saying that “**no lie is of the truth.**” What does it mean that something is **of the truth**? (See John 8:44; 18:37; 1 John 3:19) What specific truth is John talking about? How does the anointing protect us from believing the lies that John is talking about?
7. What are the essential truths a person needs to believe to know for sure that they have eternal life? Do you believe those things? Do you have the anointing from the Holy One? Do you know for sure that you have eternal life?
8. Make a list of people you know who don’t currently have an assurance of salvation. Pray for them daily asking the Lord to send His Spirit to open their eyes to the truth of the Gospel. Make plans to get together with them and share the truth of the Gospel with them, how the Lord opened your eyes, and how you know for sure that you have eternal life.
9. **Memorize 1 John 2:20-21.**