



The Great Divide

1 John 2:18-25

Danger From Within the Flock

◆ Acts 20:29-30 - ²⁹ I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰ and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.

Last Hour – Antichrists

◆ **1 John 2:18-19** - ¹⁸ Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour. ¹⁹ They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us.

False Teaching - Antichrists

- ◆ **1 Timothy 6:3-5** - If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness, ⁴ he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, ⁵ and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain.

Anointed – Knowledge

◆ **1 John 2:20-21** - ²⁰ But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge. ²¹ I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth.

Test Your Leaders and Teachers

- ◆ **Always question, always research, always place the teachings of your minister and leaders under the scrutiny of the Bible.**
- ◆ **Does the teaching match that of the Holy Scriptures?**
- ◆ **Acts 17:10-11** - ¹⁰ The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived they went into the Jewish synagogue. ¹¹ Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.

Jesus – Words of Truth

- ◆ **Jesus has given us the words of Truth which we use to compare against the teachings of men.**
- ◆ **John 17:8** - ⁸ For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me.
- ◆ **John 17:17** - ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.
- ◆ **2 Timothy 3:16-17** - ¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Who is the Liar?

◆ **1 John 2:22-23** - ²² Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son. ²³ No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also.

God's Truth – Not Man's Interpretation

◆ **2 Peter 1:19-21** - ¹⁹ And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, ²⁰ **knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation.** ²¹ For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.



Women's Issues – Follow the Scriptures

- ◆ **1 Timothy 2:12-14** - I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet.
¹³ For Adam was formed first, then Eve; ¹⁴ and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.
- ◆ **1 Corinthians 14:34** - Let your women keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak; but they are to be submissive, as the law also says. (NKJV)

Paul the Apostle

- ◆ **If you oppose the writings of Paul – then you oppose the teaching of Jesus.**
- ◆ **Acts 9:15** - ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel.
- ◆ **Acts 13:2-3** - ² While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” ³ Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

Paul the Apostle

- ◆ **Ephesians 3:7** - ⁷ Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power.
- ◆ **Galatians 1:10** - ¹⁰ For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Abide in the Truth of the Scriptures

◆ **1 John 2:23-25** - ²³ No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also. ²⁴ Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father. ²⁵ And this is the promise that he made to us— eternal life.

Christ Lives in Me

◆ **Galatians 2:20** - . ²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

No Division – Resist the Great Divide

◆ **1 Corinthians 1:10-13** - ¹⁰ I appeal to you, brothers by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹ For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹² What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³ Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?