

1. Introduction

- John starts Chapter 2 by expressing his desire that we should not sin. Vs1
- Verses 15-17 are a warning against loving the world (the world system of values, ethics, morals) Read Vs15
- The rest of the Chapter is a warning against the antichrist.
- John uses this term in two senses
 - The Antichrist
 - Antichrists

2. The Antichrist

Vs 18

- One who is opposed to (anti) Christ, a False Christ, (Amplified Bible) "He who will oppose Christ in the guise of Christ."
- an atheist in church clothes. John is the only one who uses the term "Antichrist" See also Daniel 8:23-25 (master of intrigue), Daniel 11:36-37; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4; (man of lawlessness) Revelation 13:1-10, 19:11-21 (The beast)

3. Antichrists

- Like The Antichrist they are opposed to Christ, usually in disguise.
- False "Christians" who for a time are a part of the church. Vs 19 Acts 20:28-31a; Romans 16:17-18; 2 Corinthians 11:3-4, 13-15; 2 Timothy 3:12-13.

4. Their Claims

(We've already seen some of them and they're all false)

- to have fellowship with God (1:6)
- to be without sin (1:8,10)
- to know Jesus (2:4)
- to walk in the light (2:9)
- In other words, they claim to be Christians when really they are not

5. Their Detection - By their fruit you will know them - Matthew 7:15-16

- they walk in darkness (1:6, 2:11)
- they don't admit to their sin (1:9)
- they don't do what Christ commands (2:4) John 14:15,21
- they hate their brothers (2:9-11)
- they leave the fellowship of believers (2:19) not "at home" with them
- they are liars and deceivers
- they deny that Jesus is the Son of God, & aspects of His deity including virgin birth and resurrection. (2:22-23)
2 Peter 2:1-3

6. Their Defeat (How to stand firm against them, or how to keep ourselves from being led astray by them) Vs26

- the abiding word - hold to what you have been taught (Vs21,24; 2 Timothy 3:12-17)
- know the truth (Vs20-21; John 8:32, 16:13)
- the abiding witness - hold to the inward witness (Vs20,27) Romans 8:14-16; Ephesians 1:13-14
- the abiding Christ - hold to Christ (Vs24,25,29) Remain in close fellowship with Jesus. John 15:4-10
- the returning Christ - hold fast to Him. (Vs28)

Scripture Quotations from the New International Version (NIV), and Amplified Bible