

1 John 2:18-2:27 (A Cosmic Battle)

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. 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. 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. 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. 26 I write these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you. 27 But the **anointing** that you received from him **abides** in you and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his **anointing** teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie – just as it has taught you, **abide** in him.

1. An Enemy – the Antichrist

An Enemy who works against Christ. An Enemy whose work is a sign of the times. An Enemy who is behind false teachers who break away. An Enemy who, in the divine mystery, is not beyond God's sovereign control. An Enemy who teaches that Jesus is not

the promised king. An Enemy who teaches that Jesus is not the incarnate Son of God. An Enemy who teaches that God is not both Father and Son.

2. A Helper – the Anointing

A Helper given to us by the Father and the Son. A Helper that is most suitable for fighting the Enemy. A Helper who lives within every one of us. A Helper who teaches us the truth about everything we need to know.

3. A Command – “Abide!”

A Command to cling to the original gospel message. A Command that comes with the certain promise of Eternal Life.