

~ 1 John ~

Lesson 21- The Word of Life Abiding in You

We are continuing our study in First John, and we are in a larger section spanning **1 John 2:18-28**. As you can see, John is weaving back and forth through two contrasts: those who are with Christ and those who are antichrist. Those who have the anointing and those who are anti-anointing: **χρῖσμα**, v.s **ἀντίχριστος**. Two weeks ago we learned of the Antichrist to come and the spirit of antichrist who is among us even now. And last week we learned that the anointing, who is the Holy Spirit teaches us the Truth. He teaches us the precious Truth that Jesus is the Christ. And it is the Light of this Truth that exposes these antichrists who have infiltrated into our churches and our lives trying to deceive us.

Now in verses 24-28, John tells us what we should be doing, now that we know this Truth. Let's look at this section starting with verse 24...

24 You therefore, that which you heard from the beginning, let it continue to abide in you.

If that which you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father.

24 ὑμεῖς οὖν ὃ ἠκούσατε ἀπ' ἀρχῆς ἐν ὑμῖν μενέτω.

ἐὰν ἐν ὑμῖν μένῃ ὃ ἀπ' ἀρχῆς ἠκούσατε, καὶ ὑμεῖς ἐν τῷ υἱῷ καὶ ἐν τῷ πατρὶ μενεῖτε.

24 You therefore... ~ **ὑμεῖς οὖν** –John begins verse 24 with an emphatic “you”. You therefore... He is speaking to you and me, the “little children”~ *paidia*, **παιδία**. This is an emphatic you because in this verse, John uses the second person plural pronoun, **ὑμεῖς**, in addition to him saying “you” in the verb. “you heard”, **ἠκούσατε**. In fact, just in these next five verses, from 24-28, John says “you” 18 times.

1 John 2:24–28- **24 ὑμεῖς οὖν ὃ ἠκούσατε ἀπ' ἀρχῆς ἐν ὑμῖν μενέτω.** ἐὰν ἐν ὑμῖν μένῃ ὃ ἀπ' ἀρχῆς ἠκούσατε, καὶ ὑμεῖς ἐν τῷ υἱῷ καὶ ἐν τῷ πατρὶ μενεῖτε. **25** καὶ αὕτη ἐστὶν ἡ ἐπαγγελία ἣν αὐτὸς ἐπηγγείλατο ἡμῖν, τὴν ζωὴν τὴν αἰώνιον. **26** ταῦτα ἔγραψα ὑμῖν περὶ τῶν πλανώντων ὑμᾶς. **27** καὶ ὑμεῖς τὸ χρῖσμα ὃ ἐλάβετε ἀπ' αὐτοῦ ἐν ὑμῖν μένει, καὶ οὐ χρεῖαν ἔχετε ἵνα τις διδάσκῃ ὑμᾶς· ἀλλ' ὥς τὸ αὐτὸ χρῖσμα διδάσκει ὑμᾶς περὶ πάντων, καὶ ἀληθές ἐστι, καὶ οὐκ ἔστι ψεῦδος, καὶ καθὼς ἐδίδασκεν ὑμᾶς, μενεῖτε ἐν αὐτῷ. **28** καὶ νῦν, τέκνία, μένετε ἐν αὐτῷ· ἵνα ὅταν φανερωθῇ ἔχθωμεν παρρησίαν, καὶ μὴ αἰσχυρθῶμεν ἀπ' αὐτοῦ, ἐν τῇ παρουσίᾳ αὐτοῦ.

John is being very emphatic speaking to the little children of God, making the separation of “us” and “them” as he did in verse 19.

In verse 24, John begins by saying, “You therefore...”- He says this referring back to what he previously said.

Therefore... because the spirit of antichrist is among us, and you are exposing them by the Truth that the anointing is teaching you; and because you know all things concerning the Truth; and because you confess Jesus as the Christ and you are not anti-christ; because you are children of God... **You therefore, that which you heard from the beginning, let it continually abide in you...**

24 You therefore, that which you heard from the beginning... **ὑμεῖς οὖν ὃ ἠκούσατε ἀπ' ἀρχῆς**

What is it that they heard from the beginning? Look at 1 John 2:7. The Word, **ὁ λόγος**, is that which they heard from the beginning. **ὁ λόγος ὃν ἠκούσατε ἀπ' ἀρχῆς**. It is the Word of Life that was from the beginning, 1 John 1:1-5, “Ὁ ἦν ἀπ' ἀρχῆς, ὃ ἀκηκόαμεν... This is Jesus Christ. He is the Word sent from the Father to proclaim the command of everlasting life in Him. This is the message of Light, the message of Life, the message of Truth, and all who receive this Truth will have everlasting life, John 1:1-5, 12; 3:16-21.

24 You therefore, that which you heard from the beginning (the Word of Life), let it continually abide in you... ἐν ὑμῖν μενέτω.

This word “abide”, **μένω**, is a critical word. John uses this word 23 times in this epistle, always relating to our Fellowship with God and our Fellowship with the brethren. And now in these next 5 verses we see John use this word

6 more times. This tells us that abiding in God, abiding in His Word, and allowing His Word to abide in us is essential to walking a life of sanctification unto eternal life with eternal glory. We see Jesus speak of the importance to abide in Him in **John 15:4-5**.

John says, “let it (the Word of Life) continually abide in you...” “μενέτω” is a present active imperative command- “let it continually abide” in you which you heard from the beginning. This is an emphatic exhortation from John because to not let His Word continually abide is fatal. We just read in John 15:5 that without Him we can do nothing. We must abide in Him. We must root ourselves in Him, and we must continue in Him. That is the sense of this word abide, meno, μένω. Being rooted in Him. This goes back to the word ἐκ that spoke on last week. Being of God, ἐκ τοῦ Θεοῦ.

John continues in verse 24 “...If that which you heard from the beginning (the Word of Life) abides in you... ἐὰν ἐν ὑμῖν μένῃ ὁ ἀπ’ ἀρχῆς ἠκούσατε

John began verse 24 with a command, “to let the Word abide in you” and then he says “if”. The “if” shows that we have a choice. What are you allowing to abide in you? The Word of Life or the lies of antichrist? And what are you abiding in, the Word or in this evil world system? That is the question throughout this entire epistle. What are you committed to? Are you committed to righteousness or sin? Are you committed to His Word or the world? Because if you are committed to the Word of Life and... 24 “...If that which you heard from the beginning (does indeed) abide in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father. καὶ ὑμεῖς ἐν τῷ υἱῷ καὶ ἐν τῷ πατρὶ μενεῖτε.

This is the key to the assurance of everlasting life in Jesus. This is the main reason John is writing this letter, 1 John 5:13- “that we might know that we have eternal life...” IF the Word of Eternal Life abides in you, and IF you abide in His Word... THEN it is an absolute guarantee that one day, in the future, you will abide in the Son and in the Father forever.

This word, “you will abide”, μενεῖτε, is a future tense, this is going to happen...IF His Word abides in you

Why is this written in the future tense? If I am abiding in Him now, how is that different than abiding in the future? Now, in this life, we abide in Him by faith, in the Spirit, but there is coming a day, that He is going to be revealed, and we will see Him face to face, **1 Cor 13:11**; **1 John 3:2**; 1 Peter 1:4-5. This is the rapture, the catching away of the saints when we get our glorified bodies, 1 Thess 4:17; 1 Cor 15:51-58. This is uniting with Him and becoming one with Him as His bride.

And then in the next verse, he confirms this with the promise of everlasting life...

25 And this is the promise; that which He promised to us, Eternal Life.	25 καὶ αὕτη ἐστὶν ἡ ἐπαγγελία ἣν αὐτὸς ἐπηγγέλματο ὑμῖν, τὴν ζωὴν τὴν αἰώνιον.
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Notice John repeat himself. He could have just said, “this is the promise, Eternal Life. But he says, “this is the promise; that which He promised to us, Eternal Life.” That which he promised to us. This is a special promise to those who believe in Him. To those who have Fellowship and abide in Him. Eternal Life is to abide in the Father and in the Son forever. This is the Word of Life... this message of Eternal Life, 1 John 1:1-2. And all those who confess Jesus as the Christ. That He is the final sacrifice for sin, that He died for our sins and was resurrected so that we might have eternal life in Him. If you confess that, you have the Son and the Father also, and Jesus will send the Holy Spirit of promise (the anointing) to us, Acts 2:38-39. This is the all of God, the Trinity, at work to bring us into Everlasting Life, Romans 8:26-39.

26 these things I have written to you concerning those trying to deceive you	26 ταῦτα ἔγραψα ὑμῖν περὶ τῶν πλανώντων ὑμᾶς.
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These antichrists infiltrating our lives are trying to seduce us, lead us astray, and cause us to wander from the Truth. John is exhorting His listeners to abide in the Word of Life because abiding in the Word is how you will never be deceived. This is how God is keeping the evil one from us, through His Word, **John 17:15-17**. If you stop abiding in

His Word, the Word of Truth is not sanctifying you, the Spirit of Truth is not guiding you into all Truth because you have pulled yourself out from that protection. Just like we said last week, the anointing is the seal, the guarantee of eternal life because it teaches us the Truth, but if you reject that Truth, then you break that seal, and the enemy has an opportunity to sway you into the darkness. This is why John, and the entire Bible is so adamant to stay away from false teachers. Remember in Deuteronomy when Moses is teaching the Truth to the children of Israel just before they entered the promise land. And he is reminding them to keep their focus always on God and to keep themselves from falling into error. I read through the book of Deuteronomy recently, and this is all I kept seeing. Keep your heart fixed on God and don't play the harlot with the world, **Deuteronomy 11:16; 12:30; 13:5, 10, 13; 30:14-20**.

This is exactly what John is warning and exhorting us to do. Hold fast to Jesus and His Eternal Life that He has promised us and be aware of the antichrists trying to deceive us. Before we move onto verse 27, let's just read down into it... **1 John 2:24-26**.

John continues into verse 27...

27 But you, (children of God) the anointing which you have received from Him is abiding continually in you, and you have no need that anyone teach you.

27 καὶ ὑμεῖς τὸ χρίσμα ὃ ἐλάβετε ἀπ' αὐτοῦ ἐν ὑμῖν μένει, καὶ οὐ χρεῖαν ἔχετε ἵνα τις διδάσκη ὑμᾶς.

27 But you, (children of God) the anointing which you have received from Him... καὶ ὑμεῖς τὸ χρίσμα ὃ ἐλάβετε ἀπ' αὐτοῦ This is John's encouragement. Notice the emphatic "you" again. You have received the anointing from Jesus the Holy One. Remember from last week that the anointing is the Holy Spirit. It is the chrisma, χρίσμα from the Holy One, 1 John 2:20. Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit and power for His earthly ministry, Acts 10:38. And He was raised from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit, Romans 8:11; and He was exalted to the right hand of the Father as our High Priest and given the promise of the Holy Spirit unto Everlasting Life, Acts 2:32-33. And through His High Priestly ministry, He now sends the Holy Spirit to all who believe in Him, John 14:26; 15:26; 16:7, 13; Romans 8:9. When we believe and receive Jesus as the Christ, we receive the anointing from Jesus and we are anointed with the Holy Spirit, 2 Cor 1:21-22. At this time we become Christianos, Χριστιανός, little anointed ones and we are born again, born of the Spirit, born from above, **John 3:3-8; 7:38-39; Acts 2:38; 10:44-45**. This is the seal, the anointing, the promise of the Holy Spirit given to all who believe in Jesus.

27 But you, (children of God) the anointing (the Holy Spirit) which you have received from Him is abiding continually in you... ἐν ὑμῖν μένει. μένει, continually abiding, present tense. By receiving Jesus, we have the life and dunamis power of God abiding in us presently and continually. The Holy Spirit is alive and active in us, teaching and guiding us into all Truth.

27 ...and you have no need that anyone teach you... καὶ οὐ χρεῖαν ἔχετε ἵνα τις διδάσκη ὑμᾶς. Does this mean we do not need human teachers? No, that's not what John means here because that would contradict Scripture. The five-fold ministry for edifying and building up the body of Christ includes teachers: Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers, Ephesians 4:11-12. Paul calls himself a teacher of the Gentiles in 1 Timothy 2:7. And writes 1 and 2 Timothy, to stir up the gift of teaching inside Timothy, to reject false teachers, to teach the Word of Truth, and also to raise up faithful men who could teach the Word, 1 Tim 1:3-4, 18; 2:4, 7; 3:2; 4:1, 6, 11; 6:2-3; 2 Tim 1:6; 2:15, 24-26; 3:16; 4:2. John is not saying that we should not teach or that we do not need human teachers. So what teaching is John referring to?

The teaching John is speaking of is that of an inward Truth that can only be given by the Holy Spirit. The revelation of the Truth that Jesus is the Christ, that He is your personal Savior. That He died and was risen to give you eternal life. This is not just knowledge; this is an intimate knowing where every fiber of your being knows the Truth. This is the Holy *Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God*, Romans 8:16. Remember when Jesus asked the disciples who He was and Peter confessed Jesus as the Christ, **Matthew 16:15-17**. This is revealed knowledge of the Logos from God through the Holy Spirit, **Matthew 11:25-30**.

Knowing Jesus is a prerequisite to becoming Christian. You cannot become a Christian without first knowing Him. This is the New Covenant, and this is what Paul was speaking of in **Hebrews 8:11**, quoting Jeremiah 31. This is the personal relationship we have with God. No one can teach this to us. This is Truth that the Holy Spirit deposits in our hearts that we get through His Word. You hear the Words of Truth from the Bible or your pastor or teacher or a Bible study like this, and then the Holy Spirit, the anointing, will use those words and reveal and speak to you about the precious Truth of Jesus Christ. And this isn't just a one-time event, it is a continual action. Look the remainder of verse 27...

²⁷ ...But just as this anointing is presently and continually teaching you all (Truth) and is Truth and is not a lie, and just as He has taught you, you will abide in Him.

²⁷ ...ἀλλ' ὡς τὸ αὐτὸ χρίσμα διδάσκει ὑμᾶς περὶ πάντων, καὶ ἀληθὲς ἐστὶ, καὶ οὐκ ἔστι ψεῦδος, καὶ καθὼς ἐδίδαξεν ὑμᾶς, μενεῖτε ἐν αὐτῷ.

²⁷ ...but just as this anointing is presently and continually teaching you all (Truth)... ἀλλ' ὡς τὸ αὐτὸ χρίσμα διδάσκει ὑμᾶς περὶ πάντων This word, "teaching" is διδάσκει, it is also in the present tense. John is making a point to show that the Holy Spirit is continually active in us. He is abiding in us, and He is continually teaching and guiding us into all Truth, John 16:13.

John continues and says... ²⁷ the anointing that is continually teaching us all Truth, that teaching...is Truth and is not a lie... καὶ ἀληθὲς ἐστὶ, καὶ οὐκ ἔστι ψεῦδος This Truth, is the Truth that Jesus is the Christ. Remember how John defines a lie... 1 John 2:22, "a liar is he who denies that Jesus is the Christ..." The Holy Spirit only speaks and teaches the Truth of Jesus, John 16:13-15, and He only speaks the Words of Jesus, and Jesus only speaks the words of the Father. Again, notice the unbreakable bond of Fellowship between the Trinity.

²⁷ ...and just as He (the anointing) has taught you, you will abide in Him. ...καὶ καθὼς ἐδίδαξεν ὑμᾶς, μενεῖτε ἐν αὐτῷ.

Those taught by the anointing have the surety and promise of eternal life. John says, "you will abide in Him"... μενεῖτε ἐν αὐτῷ. Same thought as verse 24, "you will abide in the Son and in the Father"... καὶ ὑμεῖς ἐν τῷ υἱῷ καὶ ἐν τῷ πατρὶ μενεῖτε. This is the promise of Eternal Life, and it is sure, because the anointing is continually and presently teaching you all Truth. The anointing is keeping you from the evil one in the world through the Word of Truth, John 17:15. And Jesus is continually being revealed to you as the most important treasure of your life because He is the Christ, the Son of the Living God that has given His life, so that you might have eternal life with Him. This is working in you an absolute surety of one day, in the future, abiding in Him in eternal glory.

Lets read these 5 verses again. Notice the progression in these verses. It's about our Fellowship in Him. We continually abide in Him and He is continually abiding in us, **1 John 2:24-27**.

²⁴ You therefore, that which you heard from the beginning [the Word of Life], let it continually abide in you. IF that which you heard from the beginning [does indeed] abide in you, you also will abide [in the future] in the Son and the Father [in eternal glory]. ²⁵ And this is the promise; that which He promised to us [those who believe in Him], Eternal Life. ²⁶ These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you. ²⁷ But you [children of God], the anointing [the Holy Spirit] which you have received from Him [the Holy One, Jesus Christ] is abiding continually in you, and you have no need that anyone teach you [the inward Truth that Jesus is the Christ, the precious Son of the Living God]. But just as this anointing is presently and continually teaching you all [Truth, this teaching] is Truth and not a lie. And just as He [the anointing] has taught you, you [children of God] will abide [in the future] in Him [in the Son and in the Father].

And that leads us into verse 28 which we will be looking at next time...

²⁸ And now little children, continue abiding in Him. So that when He appears, we might have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

There is so much to be said in this verse 28, so we are going to spend the next two weeks talking about our blessed hope and the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ.