



GOD'S FELLOWSHIP – TRUE SONS & DAUGHTERS (24)

START HERE:

The term “Antichrist” has taken on mythic proportions, both in pop culture and in religion. People often associate it with a global war, the end of the world, Armageddon, doomsday, final judgement, and other apocalyptic things.

Would you be surprised to learn that the word “Antichrist” appears only five times in the Bible, all in 1 John and 2 John? According to 1 John, an antichrist is anyone who denies the Father and the Son. In Greek, the word can mean more than just “against” or “opposed to” (anti) the anointed one (Christ, which means Messiah). It can also mean “in place of in order to work against.” That would be someone who claims to **be** Christ in order to work **against** Christ.

The answer to the antichrist isn't a mystery. “Remain faithful to what you have been taught from the beginning. If you do, you will remain in fellowship with the Son and with the Father.” (2:24)

Antichrists don't get the last word in John's sermon or in the history of the world. Beware of them, yes. But don't fear them. They don't have any hold or power over God's true children.

SEE HOW VERY MUCH OUR FATHER LOVES US,
FOR HE CALLS US HIS CHILDREN,
AND THAT IS WHAT WE ARE!

(3:1)

READ THIS: 1 John 12:15-3:10

THINK ABOUT:

List the things that John contrasts in this section, for example:

love for the world / love of the Father (2:15)

EXTRA THINGS

John writes about the “last times” or “last hour” in verse 18. Many early Christians believed that Jesus would return to earth during their lifetime.

2,000 years later, we are still waiting for the “last hour.” But in some ways, we are actually living in the “last days” now because Jesus has already defeated death and evil through his death & resurrection.

As far back as 70 AD, people have been predicting the end of the world. Some predicted a range of years (1346-1351). Some predicted a specific day (April 6, 793). Some even predicted a specific time (Oct. 19, 1533 at 8:00 a.m.).

Obviously, they've all been wrong. Jesus said only God knows when this world will come to an end. See Matthew 24:36 and Mark 13:32.

EXTRA VERSES

EXTRA STUFF

Listen to “Sons and Daughters” [HERE](#).

Listen to “Children of God” [HERE](#).

What do you learn from these contrasting pairs?

AM: Today, reject lies about God and yourself. Live as a TRUE son/daughter of the TRUE God.

PM: Today, how did you reject lies and experience truth?

Dear Lord, Thank you for the truth that we learn in scripture. Thank you for revealing your true identity to us, and proclaiming our true identity. Give us the courage, strength, and wisdom to reject the world's lies and to embrace your truth. Help us to live as your true children. Amen.