# Letter of Faith & Assurance #12

1 John 2:18-23 - “The Truth, The Lie”

Introduction: We know that we know Him by several different marks, first there is practical obedience to His commands. Second, we are assured because of the love for we have for God and love for the brethren (the new commandment). John points out to us that a love for God will naturally result in a separation from the world. Third, is the test of Truth. So what is your assurance based on today?

I. We are living in a world that knows little or nothing about Truth.

A. Truth matters.

1. Our society is thinking under the idea that subjectivity reigns.

a. Man today thinks subjectively.

b. If man can reason it out, then he is okay with decision

c. “Whatever makes me feel good is what I will do.”

2. Truth has fallen in the streets today.

a. People have no regard for truth.

b. Many intellectuals even question that absolute truth exists.

3. For now and in this circumstance, this is true for me.

a. There is a smorgasbord of ideas that we may pick from.

b. As long as you believe it sincerely, no one is really wrong.

c. There is nothing absolutely wrong or absolutely right.

d. Day to day, whatever proves to be best for me is what is right.

B. Intellectuals may convince some, but in reality we know truth and make choices based on it.

1. Deciding what road leads to our desired destination.

a. Why do want to go and how are you going to get there.

b. If it based only on what is most convenient, then it is not based on truth.

1) Taking I-10 East to get to California is not going to happen.

2) Just because someone says it is a great trip doesn’t change the destination.

2. Making financial investments.

a. Those who invested in Google are seeing greater returns than those who invested in AOL.

b. Investors look at supply and demand to make financial decisions.

3. Truth is the issue.

a. It does not matter how sincere a person is about their opinion of truth.

1) If you take want to take I-10 to California you must head west.

2) The same is true about knowing and walking with God.

i. You must recognize that He is who He has revealed himself to be in the world and in the Word.

ii. You must serve God God’s way, He isn’t looking for you to invent a better way.

b. A person can be sincere about all sorts of things, but if they are not guided by truth they are wrong.

II. Another Natural Division from John.

A. Us and Them.

1. They (them) would be those of the world.

a. Those not in Christ.

b. They who have not embraced the gospel.

2. We (us) would be those who are saved.

a. Those who know Jesus Christ as their Savior.

b. The “Little Children” whom John is writing to.

B. What separates us from them?

1. What we believe.

a. It is permeating society that it really does not matter what you believe.

b. If there is the truth, then there is the lie.

1) Anything that contradicts the truth is the lie.

2) What disagrees with the truth cannot also be truth.

c. He that denieth that Jesus is the Christ is the Lie.

d. Any denial that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, is the Lie.

1) Further it says that he is anti-Christ:

(a) One who is against or opposite to Christ.

(b) One who puts himself in the place of Christ.

(c) Any denial in the deity of Jesus Christ is directly opposed to Christ.

2) It is a pervasive mood or spirit against Christ (4:3)

(a) An attitude that denies what the Bible says about Jesus Christ.

(b) An anti-Jesus mentality.

(c) People denying the authority, authenticity or lordship of Jesus Christ.

d) It finds its way in to every part of our life.

e. If a person’s teachings deny the claims of Jesus in the Bible, then that person is anti-Christ (a spirit that is against God.)

f. The “anti-Christ” is someone particular who is the ultimate man of sin who will draw man to worship him.

g. Many times it is ok to mention Christianity in a general sense, but when you say “Jesus” it often becomes offensive or fanatical speech.

1) This is the spirit and attitude of ant-Christ.

2) It does not just exist in secular places where obvious untruth is being flaunted.

h. If we embrace the truth, then those who are outside of that truth, are part of the lie.

1) God gave us an exclusive gospel.

2) God did not send His many sons, but His only Son.

3) He did not come manifesting himself as the person of many philosophies and ideas, but to Die ONCE for sinners.

2. What we possess.

a. An unction from the Holy One.

1) Unction comes from the word “carisma”

b. Carisma is the anointing of the Holy One

1) When you receive Christ

2) You have received the Spirit.

c. When you received Jesus Christ, you received the Anointing.

1) The anointing is the presence of the Holy Ghost.

2) If any man has not the spirit of Christ, he is none of His, but if any man has the spirit of Christ, they have the anointing.

Romans 8:16 *“The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.”*

3) A person who has never received Christ does not have the anointing.

3. There ought to be a noticeable difference between them and us.

a. One of the manifestations of the Spirit in our lives will be the ability to distinguish truth from lies.

b. The presence of the Holy Spirit in a life gives an appetite for truth.

c. When a person kicks against the truths of the Christ in their life, something is wrong in that life.

Conclusion: The idea of someone being indwelt by the Living, Holy Christ and His anointing in us and it not affecting how we live and conduct our life on a daily basis is absurd. Praise the Lord for the truth we find in Christ. Do not allow the lies of this world discourage you from following the only and true God.