

1 John 008

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The Ultimate Lie

1 John 2:22-25

I. Introduction:

A. True

1. We desire to share and discuss the truth of God's word with anyone who will listen.
2. Those proclaiming secular humanistic agenda get angry when their lies are questioned
3. World can push the most ridiculous ideas, philosophies, beliefs, and agendas, but if we offer the truth we are vilified. The truth is offensive to the society of our day.

B. Warning (Isaiah 5:20-21)

In Isaiah 5 God pronounced series of woes against Israel, 4th & 5th are particularly applicable.

1. – Moral Corruption

- a. The 4th woe concerns utter moral corruption. After following sin & rebellion one often loses the ability to tell truth from error.
- b. Likewise, they can't see the truth when it is standing in front of them.
- c. Those who run hard after sin begin to call evil good and good evil.
- d. A few examples from our contemporary culture include:
 - (1) The pursuit of recreation and pleasures is now called work/life balance.
 - (2) Stealing is now viewed as necessity or entitlement.
 - (3) Personal responsibility for one's actions is viewed as unfortunate circumstances.
 - (4) Disregard for law and order is now considered freedom of expression.
 - (5) Deviation from God's ordained use of human sexuality is now being the real you.
- e. In our culture right has become wrong and wrong has become right.

2. – Wise in our own eyes

- a. The 5th woe or warning has to do with man's arrogance. (**Judges 17:6**)
- b. In Israel, during the time of the judges, the nation was in a miserable condition.
- c. When a person is humble, there is the chance they might repent and be saved.
- d. Arrogant person, wise in their own eyes, won't repent because they can't see need.

II. Ultimate lie originates all untruth. (1 John 2:22-23)

A. The ultimate lie

1. The epitome of all lies is to deny that Jesus is the Christ.
2. To deny that Jesus is the Christ means to:
 - a. Deny He is God.
 - b. Deny His incarnation as the Son of God.
 - c. Deny He is the Savior.

B. Three things are noteworthy about this ultimate lie.

1. – Originated with Satan

- a. The ultimate lie, the denial of Jesus, originated with Satan.
- b. Jesus spoke with the Pharisees, the religious hypocrites of His day. (**John 8:44**)
- c. When a person denies Jesus, they're following lie Satan perpetuated from creation.

2. – The source of all other lies

- a. To deny Jesus is the Christ is the foundation of every other sinful lie in the world.
- b. The natural progression of denying Jesus is as follows:
 - (1) To deny Jesus leads to the lie of atheism.
 - (2) The lie of atheism leads to the lie of moral relativity, no law of right & wrong.

- (3) The lie of moral relativity leads to the lie that man is his own god & the master of his own destiny. Thus, we can define right and wrong.
 - (4) The lie that man is his own god leads to the lie that there is no judgment, no accountability for our choices and actions, and there is no hell.
 - (5) The lie of no judgment or accountability leads to the lie that man can do what is right in his own eyes. Whatever a person thinks is right for them is permissible.
3. – Keeps people from the Father
- a. The worst part of this ultimate lie is it keeps people from the Father. **(1 John 2:23)**
 - b. The only way to know God the Father is through God the Son. **(John 12:44-45)**
 - c. He who sees Jesus has seen the Father & who knows Him knows the Father **(Jn 14:9)**
 - d. Salvation: Nowhere is this truer than in the realm of salvation. **(John 14:6)**
 - e. Jesus died on the cross as payment for our sin.
 - f. Application: To be saved by faith in Jesus is to know the Father.
 - g. Our response to Jesus is our response to the Father.

III. Let Truth Abide You (1 John 2:24-25)

A. What you heard from the beginning

- 1. The truth of the Gospel is what these Christians heard in the beginning.
- 2. Their salvation experience in Jesus began with the truth of the Gospel.
- 3. John said let that Gospel truth abide, continue in you.
- 4. The truth is the opposite of the lie.
 - (1) – Jesus is God.
 - a. Jesus is the creator God. It's by Jesus' power that the universe holds together.
 - b. Jesus has existed forever as God in the Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
 - (2) – Jesus is the incarnate Son of God.
 - a. Jesus willingly left heaven and took on human flesh.
 - b. Jesus was both God and man at the same time.
 - c. Jesus laid aside His glory & took on servant's form so He could die on the cross.
 - (3) – Jesus is the Savior.
 - a. Jesus died on the cross, was buried, and rose again the 3rd day.
 - b. Jesus ascended back to heaven where He sits at the right hand of the Father making intercession for all who call upon His name. He's the Savior world desperately needs.

B. Reasons to Abide in the Truth (1 John 2:16-17)

- 1. – The world is alien to the Father.
 - a. The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, the pride of life & all that this world stands for in sin and rebellion is antithetical to the Father.
 - b. If we are to abide with the Father, we must abide in the truth. Jesus is the truth.
- 2. – This world is passing away.
 - a. All the world has to offer is temporary. Sin's pleasure fade quickly leaving emptiness
 - b. Believing the lie leads to death & judgment. Gospel, the truth leads to life everlasting
- 3. – Fellowship with the Father
 - a. An important reason to abide in the truth is it brings fellowship with the Father.
 - b. We should pray for faith to walk like antediluvian saint, Enoch. **(Genesis 5:24)**
- 4. – Eternal Life
 - a. The truth leads to eternal life.
 - b. When we put our faith in Jesus and ask Him to forgive our sin, He does just that.
 - c. Not only does He forgive our sin, He gives to us eternal life.