



1 John 2:12-27

Reasons for Writing

- 12** I am writing to you, dear children,
because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name.
- 13** I am writing to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.
I am writing to you, young men,
because you have overcome the evil one.
- 14** I write to you, dear children,
because you know the Father.
I write to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.
I write to you, young men,
because you are strong,
and the word of God lives in you,
and you have overcome the evil one.

On Not Loving the World

15 Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. **16** For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. **17** The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.

Warnings Against Denying the Son

18 Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour. **19** They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us.

20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth. **21** I do not write to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and because no lie comes from the truth. **22** Who is the liar? It is whoever denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a person is the antichrist—denying the Father and the Son. **23** No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

24 As for you, see that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father. **25** And this is what he promised us—eternal life.

26 I am writing these things to you about those who are trying to lead you astray. **27** As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit—just as it has taught you, remain in him.

Warnings about the World, Dealing with Deceivers

Read

Pray before you dive into 1 John 2:12-27. Ask the Spirit to reveal the truths contained in this passage to you and make some observations as you read. What might be challenging you?

Think

What springs to mind when you're reading verses 12-14? How valuable it is to know Christ and what He has done and accomplished! We often need to slow down and revisit what Christ means to us. What do we really know about him and all he has done for us?

In challenging times, we may be tempted to look for immediate relief. Aside from what Christ has done for us, we may consider our success or achievement in the titles, jobs, lifestyles or perceptions we've individually curated for our lives. John is warning us to reconsider what is more precious in life, even going so far as to challenge us not to love the world and what it offers.

Another thing to be aware of are the false teachers in these confusing times. In verse 19, the false teachers had begun their spiritual lives from within the church community but later denied Christ. What are some ways we can keep alert and stay focused on Christ? How should we remain faithful and committed to proclaiming the gospel?

Pray

As you continue to reflect, what are the things that Christ has given you hope in and how will you choose to remain faithful even when a situation becomes difficult? Invite the Holy Spirit to guide your prayer.

Live

It is important to develop habits in our lives that will support our growth and faith in Christ. What areas do you need to admit and surrender to God that the world has been tempting you in? May we as a community live and engage each other to fix our eyes on Christ in our daily living.