

# ABIDING IN THE ANOINTING

## 1 John 2:24-27

### INTRODUCTION

Ephesians 4:11-14 - if you wanted a vision statement for a church.

The churches in Asia Minor were being influenced by the thinking of the cultures around them. The Christians in the 1<sup>st</sup> century needed anchor points to keep them on the path of truth and righteousness. I think we do as well.

**Sermon title** – Now, I don't want this title to concern you. We have not embraced the error of non-cessasionist theology and become a charismatic church ☺  
→ The title comes straight from the text.

Abiding - staying, remaining, holding on to, complying with

**John 8:31** – “you abide in My word”

**John 15:4** – “[you] Abide in Me”

**John 15:9** – “you abide in My love”

**1 John 2:10** – “abides in the light”

**1 John 2:24** – “you ... abide in the Son and in the Father.”

**1 John 4:16** – “the one who abides in love abides in God”

**2 John 9** – “[you] abide in the teaching of Christ”

If you are a child of God, what abides in you:

**John 15:7** – “My words abide in you”

**1 John 2:14** – “the word of God abides in you”

**1 John 2:24** – “what you heard from the beginning abides in you”

**1 John 3:9** – “His seed abides in him”

**1 John 4:12** – “God abides in us”

**2 John 2** – “the truth ... abides in us”

**1 John 2:27** – “the anointing ... abides in you”

## READ 1 John 2:24-27

### Proposition: 3 Anchor Points:

- I. Abiding in the Truth (Veracity)
- II. Abiding in the Promise (Fidelity)
- III. Abiding in the Anointing (Security)

### So That: Anchor Points...

- to **keep** us from being blown around by every wind of doctrine.
- to **shelter** us from being swept away by every fad and trend that that comes through and circulates in popular culture and the larger Christian community.
- to **secure** us on the narrow path
- to **save** us from falling into sin

### 1<sup>st</sup> Anchor Point, ...

#### I. Abiding in the Truth (Veracity) 1 John 2:24

Point – The Tests of: **Obedience, Love, and Truth.**

The Directional Test → Do you *obey* Jesus?

The Devotional Test → Do you *love* Jesus?

And now the Doctrinal Test → Do you *know* Jesus?

→ The Test of **Truth**

Quick Review of Chapter 2: – Test of obedience (1-6), a “new commandment” (7) → Test of love; contrast with “love for the world” (15-17) → “many antichrists”

Proof – “<sup>24a</sup>As for you, let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning.”

“As for you” – emphatic, literally it says “You, yourselves”

→ contrast to the “antichrists”

“**let that abide in you**” – this is a command. Grammatically this is in the present imperative – standing orders. Let that continually abide in you. From that there is strength and stability.

“**which you heard from the beginning**” –

→ Just like **2:7** – “I am not writing a new commandment to you”

And he repeats “**which you heard from the beginning**” twice!

→ John takes great pains to ensure his audience understands he isn’t sucking some ear-tickling fancifully new doctrine out of his thumb.

**Illustration** – Just like **Jude 3** – “Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.”

Just like **Jesus** ...

**Rev 3:11** – “I am coming quickly; hold fast what you have”

**Application** – Beloved, since John’s readers didn’t need anything new then, we really don’t need anything new now ... after 2000 years of reflection on the doctrines of grace.

“<sup>24b</sup>**If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father.**”

Doctrinal Test of Truth:

“**the Son**” is listed before “**the Father**”  
because we come to “**the Father**” through the “**the Son.**”

**Illustration** – You may have heard the phrase “run home to mama”. When the waves of doctrine and speculation come and

threaten us and the doctrine of Christ, we need to “run home to mama” and bring out the Bible. Everything we need is given to us in the Scriptures.

Nehemiah 8:1-8 - Beloved, that is our charge. It was the same for the nation of Israel, it was the same for the churches in Asia Minor to whom John was writing and it is the same for us in Gilbert, AZ.

**Application** – Many Christians sadly look for quick guidance from without (the pages of Scripture) when if they would merely be patient, guidance will come from within the pages of Scripture through the abiding Spirit.

A Bible in the hand is worth two in the bookcase. → Read it!

**2<sup>nd</sup> Anchor Point, ...**

**II. Abiding in the Promise (Fidelity) 1 John 2:25-26**

Point – The faithfulness of our promise-giving Lord.

Proof – “<sup>25</sup>**And this is the promise which He Himself made to us: eternal life.**”

- literally – “And this is the promise which He Himself promised to us”

**John 10:10** – “The thief comes only to steal, and kill, and destroy; I came that they might have life, and might have *it* abundantly.”

**John 10:27-28** – “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand.”

“**promise**” – from the Greek word *evpaggeli,a* – comes from the same root word as the word “angel” and it is used often in classical Greek.

- In **classical Greek**, it is never the gods who promise something to men, but only men to gods  
→ In **Christianity**, it is God who makes the promises

**1 Tim 4:8** – “for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and *also* for the life to come.”

**2 Tim 1:1** – “Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life in Christ Jesus,”

**Psa 56:8** – “Thou hast taken account of my wanderings; Put my tears in Thy bottle; are *they* not in Thy book?”

The promise is:

“**eternal life**” → **5:8-12** - “witness” - v.11-12

When you look at the phrase “**eternal life**”:

- Paul portrays it more as a prize to be won.
- John portrays it more as a fountain from which to draw and a foundation upon which to rest.
- Both are true.
- “**eternal life**” is both a future prize to pursue and a present promise to possess.

<sup>26</sup>“**These things I have written to you concerning those who are trying to deceive you.**”

“**deceive**” – lead astray, cause to wander, delude, to twist thoughts, to cause what is false to seem true

This phrase is used in the New Testament of demons – **1 Tim 4:1** – “But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,”

This phrase is used of evil men – **2 Tim 3:13** – “evil men and impostors will proceed *from bad* to worse, deceiving and being deceived.”

This phrase is used for us before conversion – **Tit 3:3** – “we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another.”

**Application** – By God’s grace and mercy, we are new creatures in Christ Jesus. We have the rock of the promise of God laid out with clarity for us to understand. This is protection. This is security. This is our safeguard against the darts, the craft schemes, the winds of doctrine and waves of deceit.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Anchor Point, ...**

**III. Abiding in the Anointing (Security) 1 John 2:27**

Point – The anointing you have received from the most High God is an **accomplished reality**. And the anointing you have received carries with it a **mandated responsibility**.

First, the anointing you have received ...

**A. Is an Accomplished Reality**

Proof – <sup>“27a</sup>**And as for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie,”**

“**anointing**” – from the Greek word **χρῖσμα** – same root as “**Christ**” which means the Anointed One.  
“**Christians**” means “anointed ones.”

This **χρῖσμα**, which is based entirely on **Χριστός**, makes **Χριστιανοί**, and is completely absent, etymologically and theologically, from the **ἀντίχριστοι**.

This “**anointing**,” which is based entirely on “**Christ**,” makes “**Christians**,” and is completely absent, etymologically and theologically, from the “**antichrists**.”

Jesus was anointed by the Father

**Luke 4:17-19** – “And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book, and found the place where it was written, <sup>18</sup>The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are downtrodden, <sup>19</sup>to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord.”

**John 14:16-17** – “And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; <sup>17</sup>*that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you.”

Jesus is the Anointed One - from the womb of Mary to the highest throne of glory and He sends the Spirit to **anoint** you.

“**and you have no need for anyone to teach you**” – against incipient Gnosticism and the “**many antichrists**” who were purveying their secret knowledge and peddling their “**anointing**”

Solid Teachers are Christ’s gift to the church:

**1 Cor 12:28** – “God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers”

**Eph 4:11** – “He gave some *as* apostles, and some *as* prophets, and some *as* evangelists, and some *as* pastors and teachers”

**2 Tim 1:11** – “I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher.”

Beloved, John is not being exclusive here. He is being inclusive of all believers.

**Westminster Confession** – “*Yet those things which are necessary to be known, believed and observed for salvation are so clearly propounded and opened in some place of*

*Scripture or other that not only the learned but the unlearned in a due use of ordinary means may attain unto a sufficient understanding of them,”*

One of the fulfillments of the promise of the New Covenant in Jeremiah 31 is that we will all know Him, from the **greatest** to the **least**. We will all be taught by God Himself.

**Heb 8:11** – “And they shall not teach everyone his fellow citizen, And everyone his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ For all shall know Me, From the least to the greatest of them.”

**John** is saying that in the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Teacher Himself dwells within us.

It’s not simply that God gives us the Truth and says, “Now go learn it the best you can.” He gives us the Truth, the Bible, and then He gives us the Author, the Holy Spirit, → to indwell us and to illuminate the Truth within us.

→ **Eph 3:14-19**

**Illustration** – In the Old Testament, certain people were anointed with oil for a specific task. In the New Testament, every believer is anointed with the Holy Spirit.

**Application** – Beloved, do not feel inadequate. You are the anointed of God.

**2 Cor 3:5** – “Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as *coming* from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God,”

**“but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie”** – The Holy Spirit is our Protector against mortal sin and deadly error.

This anointing does not guarantee a precise agreement in every point of doctrine and practice.

**Application** - Real love for Truth necessarily mandates a sanctified hatred for error...in humility, in grace, in gentleness and with fear of God and love of men.

“<sup>27a</sup>**the anointing ... abides in you**” → accomplished reality!

Second, the anointing you have received ...

**B. Carries with it a Mandated Responsibility**

Point – Both/And → The **Indicative** and the **Imperative!**

→ Divine Sovereignty and Human Responsibility!

→ Already and not yet

Proof –

“<sup>27b</sup>**and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him**”

→ Mandated Responsibility!

**Illustration** -

**1 John 2:8** – “the true **light** is already shining”

→ Accomplished Reality!

**John 12:35** – “Walk while you have the **light.**”

→ Mandated Responsibility!

**Illustration** – “**His anointing teaches you about all things ...and just as it has taught you**” → There is a present tense teaching and there is a past tense, already accomplished aspect of the teaching.

**Illustration** – **Mark 9:24** – “Immediately the boy’s father cried out and *began* saying, ‘I do believe; help my unbelief.’”

It’s a “Both/And”!

**Illustration** – It is very sad that the “**The Shack**” book is now being made into a movie.

One writer claimed that dopey, semi-Christian movies and books are popular because many Christians are dopey and semi-Christian.

**The Shack** book and movie is not dopey and semi-Christian. It is dangerous and anti-Christian.

Another writer said it this way: “In my personal vision of heaven, the angels are pruning the evangelical publishing industry with power mowers.”

**Application** – In contrast! The promise of Christ stands fast; the unchanging rock amidst the tides of opinion and the winds of doctrine; unsapped by doubt; and unshaken by the storms that break up one after another the strongest fabrics of human thought and policy.

## **CONCLUSION**

Beloved, we have three guarantees:

The word of the apostles in the *brain*,  
the promise of the Son in the *heart*  
and the witness of the Spirit in the *soul*.