

## LESSON 4: 1 JOHN 2:15-19

DO NOT LOVE  
THE WORLD

Please read 1 John 2:15-17.

What do you think John means by these verses?

Jesus taught about resisting the urge to love the world and focusing on eternity instead. We are going to look at three instances of this to help us understand where John is coming from.

Please read Matthew 6:19-21.

What are some examples of earthly treasures?

What would be some examples of treasures we could store up in heaven? (You might want to read Matthew 10:41 and 2 Timothy 4:8 if you are unsure.)

Please read Luke 12:16-21.

Why should we not focus so on amassing a great fortune?

Does this mean that having money or wealth is a bad thing? (You might find it helpful to read 1 Kings 3:10-14 to see how God blessed Solomon with riches and honor.)

Please read Luke 12:29-34.

What should we be concerned about?

What does the condition of your heart reveal about the type of treasure you search for?



Please read 1 John 2:18-23.

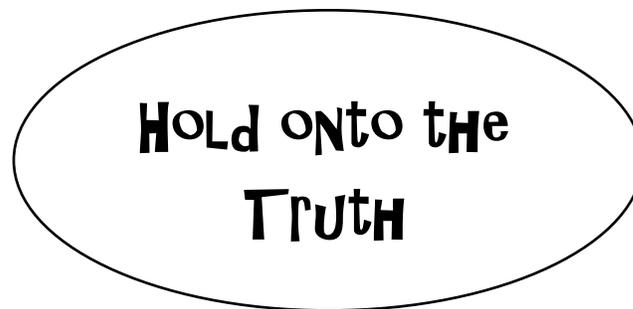
If you remember from the video, the word 'antichrist', in Greek antichristos, means an opponent of the Messiah.

Can you think of a few behaviors or current teaching that embodies this ‘opposition’ to the Messiah, or Jesus?

John says that the ones who are in opposition to Jesus may have “went out from us but they did not really belong to us.” What do you think he means by this?

Referring back to verses 22 and 23, what characteristics are given to an antichrist?

Do you think it is possible to be filled with the Holy Spirit and deny Christ? Why or why not?



Please read 1 John 2:24-29.

What anointing is John referring to?

Please read 2 Corinthians 1:21-22.

Anointing served a couple of important purposes in Biblical times. One of the easily recognizable is that of symbolizing spiritual endowment for serving God. In Exodus 29:7 we read that the priests were anointed with oil before they began to minister. In 1 Samuel 10:1 and 16:13, we find Samuel anointing first Saul and then David to be king of Israel, a job that undoubtedly required God's presence and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Another application was a much more practically minded one. A shepherd would anoint his sheep to kill lice or fleas and to heal and bring comfort.

In what ways is the anointing of God on our lives like the first anointing mentioned, the symbol of spiritual endowment for serving God?

How are you fulfilling this anointing in your life?

In what ways is the anointing of God in our lives like the second – healing aspect of anointing?

How has God's anointing brought you healing, either physically or emotionally?

Why is it important to hold onto those anointings throughout our lives?

“In the last days, God says,  
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,  
Your young men will see visions,  
Your old men will dream dreams.  
Even on my servants, both men and women,  
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,  
And they will prophesy.  
I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below,  
Blood and fire and billows of smoke.  
The sun will be turned to darkness  
And the moon to blood  
Before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.  
And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Acts 2:17-21