

JOHN'S FIRST EPISTLE - Part XII

"Christology Matters"

Reference: **I John 2:18-23**

Pastor Larry Webb

Read verse eighteen (see screen)

John said "*it is the last hour.*" **John** made that statement at about **90 AD**, so how can it still be the last hour in **2023** some **19.5** centuries after **John** said, "*it is the last hour?*"

The answer is, that God never said how long that "*last hour*" _____
_____.

Reference: **Mark 13:32-33** (see screen)

Question: If Jesus was God and if God is omniscient (has all knowledge) then how could Jesus _____ the time of His return?

Answer: Because after Jesus became human He _____ the use of some of His divine attributes.

Reference: **Philippians 2:6-8** (see screen)

Two things about the exact timing of Jesus return (rapture):

- Scripture _____ us to even attempt to discover the exact timing of Jesus return.
Reference: **Acts 1:6-7** (see screen)
- Scripture gives us no _____ we can even use to determine the exact timing of Jesus return.

The specific word *antichrist* is used just five times in the New Testament: **I John 2:18; 2:22; 4:3** and **II John 1:7**. John is the only biblical author to use that word and he uses it to mean three different but related things:

ONE...the _____ of anti-Christ

Reference: **I John 4:3** (see screen)

The word anti-Christ consists of two words: anti and then Christ (Messiah). That prefix "anti" can mean two things:

- _____; an anti-Christ is someone that is _____ Christ.
- _____ of or a substitute for; an anti-Christ also means someone or something that is _____ of Christ.

Definition: The spirit of anti-Christ is not a person but an _____ that is either against Christ or is substituting something for Christ or **both**.

TWO..._____ Christs
verse eighteen (see screen)

Definition: An anti-Christ is an _____ that has accepted this anti-Christ attitude meaning he is either against Christ or is substituting something for Christ or **both**.
Reference: **Matthew 24:4-5** (see screen)

In the past century there have been more than _____ religious personalities that have claimed to be Christ.

THREE...the ultimate singular _____
_____ Scripture calls anti-Christ
verse eighteen (see screen)

Definition: The anti-Christ (singular) is the public end time ultimate _____ that tries to establish a one world government that he rules over so he can then annihilate Israel and all Christians.

Dr. Ed Hinson said there are three different concepts essential to a correct understanding of eschatological (meaning prophetical) matters:

John argues that anti-Christ's (plural) are identifiable through two principle things:

ONE...anti-Christ's abandon the _____.
verse nineteen (see screen)

Read **verses twenty** and **twenty-one** (see screen)

TWO...anti-Christ's reject biblical _____ teaching.
verse twenty-two and **verse twenty-three** (see screen)

Definition: Christology is a branch of theology that addresses the _____, _____ and _____ of Jesus the Christ.

Biblical Christology teaches that:

The historic Jesus is the second person of the triune Godhead. The triune Godhead consists of three co-equal, co-eternal persons: God the Father, God the Son (Jesus) and God the Holy Spirit. Some twenty centuries ago Jesus as God also became human through being born from a virgin teenager named Mary. That birth resulted in Jesus being both fully God and fully man. Those two natures were joined together not mixed together; meaning that from His birth on, Jesus would forever be God in human form (i.e. incarnation). Jesus was crucified as the ultimate sacrifice for man's sins. He was buried in a borrowed tomb and then literally resurrected from the dead. After revealing Himself to hundreds of eye witnesses over a forty-day period to authenticate His resurrection Jesus literally ascended into heaven where He is at this moment. It is for these reasons that salvation including forgiveness from sins and a ticket to heaven is found in Jesus (Yeshua) and only Jesus!

Reference: **I John 4:1-3** (see screen)