

**Parish Presbyterian Church - Lesson 4 - 1 John 2:18 - 2:28, 4:1-6**  
**Doctrinal Discernment**

**Review** - John's Assurance is in the person of Jesus Christ 1:1-3

Confessing Sin leads to Assurance 1:9

Walking as Jesus Walked gives us assurance 2:6

Our Love for others is from God. We are ek/of God. 2:10, 2:15-17

**Outline** -

Many antichrists have come 2:18 - 2:19

But you have been anointed 2:20 - 2:21

The liar denies Jesus is the Christ 2:22 - 2:23a

Stand firm in what you heard 23b - 25

The reason I write, deceivers 2:26

Remain in our teaching and be confident 2:27 - 2:28

Test what is taught 4:1

The standard of belief 4:2 - 3

Jesus is in you for discernment 4:4

False teachers are of the World 4:5

Proof for who is of God 4:6

**Church Division** - Recall John's call to Love and not Hate. Perhaps friendships have been broken?

2:18 Many have become antichrists.

2:19 They went from us, but are not of us.

2:26 There are deceivers.

4:1 Many false prophets have gone out.

4:5 They speak from the world's viewpoint.

**What you Heard from the Beginning** - Pastoral Reassurance

2:20 You have been anointed by the Holy Spirit. It could also refer to Jesus Christ.

2:21 You know the truth!

2:24 Holdfast to it! Remain in it.

2:27 You have no need for others to teach you new things! Scripture is enough!

2:28 Hold firm for the day of his coming.

**Test What You Hear** -

4:1 Do not blindly accept what is preached. Some who say they have the Spirit are actually false teachers!

**4:4** You have the One in you to give you discernment. Jesus Christ who has overcome the world.

( cf 5:20 & John 16:33 )

**John's Christology** -

1:1,2 Jesus, the eternal life who was with the father was made manifest/revealed, seen heard and touched.

2:22 Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah, the Anointed one.

4:2 The Christ came in the flesh. This is John test of Orthodoxy

**Orthodox Christology** - Jesus Christ is one person with two natures.

WCF ch8 - "...two whole, perfect, and distinct natures, the Godhead and the manhood, were inseparably joined together in one person..."

**Christological Heresies** -

Docetism - Nicene Creed 325 - Denied humanity, Denied Christ came in the flesh.

Arianism - (trinitarian) Nicene Creed 325 - Jesus was created as Gods first creation.

Kenoticism - Greek word for 'empty' - Jesus set aside his deity or emptied himself of his divine attributes.

Adoptionism - Nicene Creed 325 - Jesus became the Christ at Baptism. God indwelled the man Jesus

Modalism - Nicene Creed 325 - One God, Three different names for the same person (Modes of appearance)

Apollonarianism - Chalcedon 451 - Christ had no human spirit. The Logos replaced it.

Nestorianism - Chalcedon 451 - Christ was two Persons and had two Wills

Eutychanism - Chalcedon 451 - Christ had only one nature, a mixture of human and divine.

Monophysitism - 553 2nd Council Constantinople - One Nature

Monothelitism - 680 3rd Council Constantinople Two Natures One Divine Will

**Creeds** - Statements of Biblical Truth

Apostles Creed

Nicene Creed - 325

Chalcedonian Creed - 451

Athanasian Creed

**Confessions** - Summaries of Biblical Truth

Westminster Confession of Faith (WCF) - 1647

**Three forms of Unity** - 1618, Synod of Dort, Dordrecht Netherlands

Belgic Confession - 1561

Heidelberg Catechism - 1563 German, 1566 Dutch

Cannons of Dort - 1618

**Catechisms** -

Westminster Shorter - 1647

Westminster Larger - 1647

**Applications** -

Know the word of God richly Col 3:16

Pray for a discerning mind

Pray for our people

**For Further Study** -

WCF Chapter 1 & 8

Send questions to:

ben@parishpres.org