

False Prophets and Love One Another #2

Notes for 10 May

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Read: [1 John 4](#)

This chapter is effectively a continuation of the theme projected by chapter 3 - in fact by the whole of 1 John.

However, there are two specific issues that I want us to deal with from [chapter 2](#) before venturing onto chapter 4.

1. Chap 2:17 - "but those who do the will of God live forever".
 - Do we do the will of God to live forever?
2. Chap 2:18 - "Children, it is the last hour! As you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. From this we know that it is the last hour".
 - Was the writer expecting the return of Christ at the time of writing?
3. Chap 4:1 - "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God".
 - How do we do that?
4. Chap 4:6 - "We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us, and whoever is not from God does not listen to us. From this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error."
 - Does this verse give succour to some fundamentalists?
5. Chap 4:12 - "No one has ever seen God".
 - Does Christ not count?
 - Explain!
6. Chap 4:17 - "Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as He is, so are we in this world".
 - Can you explain this verse to me please?
7. Chap 4:18-21 - It may help to read these verses several times. It appears to challenge the notion that by following a series of codified rules you please God.
 - Is the term 'love their brothers and sisters', only referring to those in our religious community?
 - Are there people I can legitimately not love?