

# How Can You Know That You Know You Have Eternal Life?

March 10, 2024

1. *False*

*The Christian life is easy and we've got plenty of **time***

**True** (1 John 2:18-19)

It's later than we think and there are lots of enemies of Christ

Some enemies used to be part of the church (Acts 20:30)

2. *False*

*We've been left all alone and have to figure everything out*

**True** (1 John 2:20-23)

All believers have an **anointing** and know the truth

We reject the lies and restate the truth about Jesus

Only Jesus **reveals** the Father (see Matt. 11:27)

3. *False*

*The gospel is constantly **evolving** and so must we*

**True** (1 John 2:24-25)

The Word you heard is changeless; hang on to **him**

Eternal life is His **promise**, not something we earned

4. *False*

*There are many trustworthy sources and to learn from*

**True** (1 John 2:26-27)

Some people want to **deceive** and lead you astray

The Spirit is the real Teacher of truth; **remain** in Him

## Two Questions From 1 John 2:18

1. The words "the last hour" are only here in the New Testament. What did John mean and why does he use this phrase?

The "last days" began when Jesus came (Acts 2:17; Heb. 1:2). This is also called the "last times" (1 Pet. 1:20) and continues until "the Lord's coming" (James 5:7-8).

During the last period of the last days things noticeably worsen just before Jesus' return (2 Tim. 3:1; 2 Pet. 3:3).

The last period of the last times is when Jesus returns and our inheritance is revealed (1 Peter 1:4-5). Then, at the very "last day" the dead are raised to be judged (John 5:28-29; 6:39-40).

So, are we living in the last days? Yes, Jesus has died, has been raised, ascended, and now reigns in heaven. He will soon return—but things will get worse before getting better. It is "the last hour" because nothing more must be done to redeem lost sinners before Jesus' return . . . but chronologically no one can pinpoint the exact time or date of His second coming (Matt. 24:36).

2. Who is "the antichrist" and what does it mean that "many antichrists have come?"

The word "antichrist" only occurs in the letters of 1 and 2 John. The prefix "anti-" refers to both a substitute and opposite. The concept is like the "man of lawlessness" (2 Thes. 2:1-12.) Jesus warned of "false Christs and false prophets" (Matt. 24:24; Mark 13:22.) The "beast from the sea" (Rev. 13:1-10) is often called The Antichrist because his power impersonates and opposes Christ.

The apostle John is aware of the ultimate Antichrist but he identifies anyone who denies that "Jesus is the Christ" as being "anti-christ" or "anti-messiah." Today there are many who actively oppose the truth that Jesus is the Christ, the eternal Son of God, the Lord of heaven and earth (Matt. 16:16; Rom. 10:9; Phil. 2:11). They are antichrists.

The desire to oppose Christ and to substitute ideologies and/or idolatries in place of Christ, is demonic at its source and goals.

*Jehovah's Witnesses believe that Jesus was created by Jehovah as the archangel Michael before the physical world existed, and is a lesser, though mighty, god.*

*Mormons talk about a Jesus who was the spirit child of Heavenly Father and Heavenly Mother. They refer to Jesus as the brother of Lucifer who proposed a better plan of redemption and won the designation "Messiah."*

*Muslims do not worship Jesus, who is known as Isa in Arabic, nor do they consider him divine, but they do believe that he was a [prophet](#) or messenger of God and he is called the Messiah in the Quran. In Islam, God is not a father and could not have a son.*

*In Bahai, Krishna Consciousness and Zen Buddhism, Christ is one of a long line of divine, spiritual Masters.*

*In Wicca, Jesus is seen as an enlightened person or a wizard by some. He did not die for the sins of the world, because the concept of sin and Satan does not exist in Wiccan beliefs.*

*In Hinduism, many gods or incarnations of gods are worshipped. The many [avatars](#) or incarnations of Vishnu include Rama and Krishna. To some Hindus, Jesus is another avatar or incarnation.*