**Don’t Be Ashamed of the Appearing of Jesus Christ**

**by Pastor Fee Soliven**

**1 John 2:24-29**

**Wednesday Evening**

**September 13, 2023**

**1 John 2:24-29**

24 Therefore let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father. 25 And this is the promise that He has promised us--eternal life.

26 These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you. 27 But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

28 And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming. 29 If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him.

**24 Therefore let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father. 25 And this is the promise that He has promised us--eternal life.**

Saints, many of these Christians had heard the gospel message from John himself.

They knew that Christ was God’s Son, that he had died for their sins, that he had been raised to give them new life, and that he would return and establish his Kingdom in its fullness.

But their fellowship was being infiltrated by teachers who were denying these basic doctrines of the Christian faith, and some of the believers were in danger of succumbing to false arguments.

John encouraged them to remain faithful to what they had been taught from the beginning—to hold on to the Christian truth that had changed their lives.

If the believers resisted the lies of the antichrists, they would continue to live in fellowship with the Son and with the Father.

By clinging to the truth about God the Father and Christ his Son, believers can be sure they will never be separated from fellowship with God.

That fellowship will literally continue forever, for Jesus promised that his followers would be given eternal life. John recorded many of these promises in his Gospel.

**John 3:14-15**

14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

**John 3:36**

“He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

**John 6:40**

And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day."

**John 6:47**

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life”

**John 6:57**

As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me.

**John 17:2-3**

2 as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. 3 And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

The believers understood the character of the one who made these promises and could trust that he would fulfill them.

**26 These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you.**

Saints, as in 2:12-14 and 2:21, John took pains to clarify his purpose in writing and to affirm the practical import of his teachings.

**1 John 2:12-14**

12 I write to you, little children, Because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake. 13 I write to you, fathers, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, Because you have overcome the wicked one. I write to you, little children, Because you have known the Father.

14 I have written to you, fathers, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, Because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, And you have overcome the wicked one.

**1 John 2:21**

I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and that no lie is of the truth.

Saints, the false teachers were trying to lead people into error, away from the basic gospel that had been taught in the beginning.

John wrote as he did because the Christians needed to be aware of those who want to lead them astray. To move away from the basic teachings into various sidelines that contradict those basics is to be “led astray” into heresy.

**2 Peter 2:1-3**

1 But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.

2 And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. 3 By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber.

These false teachers not only left the faith and the fellowship, but they wanted to lead others astray as well.

**27 But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.**

Saints, the true believers had received the Holy Spirit and he lived within them. This means that believers can place their total trust in him, rely on him for guidance and strength, and live as he directs.

It implies a personal, life-giving relationship. The same idea is in John 15:5, in Jesus’ words about his being the vine and his followers the branches (see also 1 Peter 3:24; 4:15).

**John 15:5**

I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

**1 Peter 4:14**

If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.

**Jeremiah 31:34**

No longer will each man teach his neighbor or his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquities and will remember their sins no more."

**Matthew 13:11**

He replied, "The knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.

**John 6:45**

It is written in the Prophets: 'And they will all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard the Father and learned from Him comes to Me--

**John 14:16**

And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate to be with you forever--

**John 14:17**

the Spirit of truth. The world cannot receive Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you do know Him, for He abides with you and will be in you.

**John 14:26**

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have told you.

Saints, you don’t need anyone to teach you means that Christians can tell the lying antichrists, “We do not need another teacher because the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth, teaches us, so we will continue in what he has taught us, and continue to live in Christ.“

This does not mean that Christians should turn away from the counsel of faithful ministers and attempt to make it on their own—in fact, that often will lead them astray. Instead, it means that Christians can discern truth and reject falsehood.

The better believers know the truth, the more easily they will be able to identify a lie.

The fact that the Spirit teaches all things refers to the basic gospel truths essential for salvation. This does not mean that all believers will know and understand everything, nor does it mean that the Spirit will add new revelation to what has already been taught.

Instead, through the Spirit, believers know enough to keep them from throwing away their faith in Christ and believing the lies of the false teachers.

**28 And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.**

Saints, John was so anxious for the believers’ spiritual lives that he said over and over that they should continue to live in fellowship with Christ.

**Titus 2:11-14**

11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,

13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

Although believers already have fellowship with Christ through his indwelling Spirit, a time is coming when they will see him face-to-face in all his glory.

Those who have continued in him will be full of courage and not shrink back from him in shame when he returns at his second coming.

Persevering in their relationship with Christ ensures that believers will remain in the true faith. Continuing in the faith keeps them truly ready for Christ’s return.

**29 If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him.**

Saints, Believers know that God is always right. If a person’s actions demonstrate his or her allegiance, then all who do what is right are his children.

People do not become children of God by doing right; instead, doing right is a sign that people have already become God’s children.

Because true faith always results in good deeds, those who claim to have faith and who consistently do right are true believers. Good deeds cannot produce salvation, but they are necessary proof that true faith is actually present.

**Ephesians 2:8-9**

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

**James 2:14-17**

14 What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? 17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead

Saints, Soon and Very soon, Jesus is about to appear, we are almost out of here!

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**1 Corinthians 15:50-54**

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

**Short Movie Slide>**

**Acts 2:38-39**

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

**Let’s Pray!**

**Benediction**

**"May The LORD bless you and keep you, May The LORD make His face shine upon you, May The LORD be gracious to you, May The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you His (Shalom) peace.”**