

FIRST JOHN STUDY

CHAPTER 4:1-6

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“Living in the Daze of Deception” - Part 6

The Deception of The Cry for Unity *“We’re Really Just One Big Family”*

THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

1 John 1:3

“that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.”

TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Deception, False Doctrine, Global Church, False Unity

Keep in Mind That The Epistles of the apostle John Are a collection of writings given by the Holy Spirit through the man, John.

2 Timothy 3:16

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God,

2 Peter 1:20

For no prophecy recorded in Scripture was ever thought up by the prophet himself. It was the Holy Spirit within these godly men who gave them true messages from God.

The Motive of this Epistle is Obviously Love!

The Love of God and the Love for God
The Love of the Brethren and the Love for the Brethren

In View of Our Text

How is the Love of God for us Displayed?

By

Correction, instruction, rebuke, encouragement, assurances - *as He challenges us*

Contrary to Popular Belief

*Christians are not to be gullible as to what they hear
first from the world and second from the pulpit*

Ephesians 6:12

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

And Herein Lies the Nature of False Doctrine

2 Corinthians 10:4-5

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

The Believer's Victory Over False Prophets And Antichrists

1 John 4:1-6

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. **2** By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, **3** and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world. **4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.** **5** They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them. **6** We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

The Danger of Unity at Any Cost

Verse 4

You are of God, little children, and have overcome them,
because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

**The Message of the False Prophet(s) Today is "Unity at
All Costs"**

Satan Understands the Wisdom of this World.
And the wisdom of this world says "If you can't beat them – join them"

Matthew 16:18

"And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and **the gates of Hell shall not prevail** against it.

Satan Knows This Verse – He Can Read!

"If I cant beat them – I'll join them"

Via Infiltration

"The Church"

The Deception of The Cry for Unity
"We're Really Just One Big Family"

1.) *We are no longer of the world*

v. 4a

You are of God, little children

a.) *Now we are of God*

v.4a

You are of God

"You"

You who confess what the false prophet does not

1 Corinthians 12:3

...for no one can say that Jesus is Lord
except by the Holy Spirit.

**THAT WHICH IS
THE PERSON'S DOCTRINE**

*

of grk 1537 ek (ek) or ex (ex);

the origin where vitality proceeds from. The place, the time, or the cause.
As a result from being “among”, “between” or “from within”.

Like the Birthing of a Child

(#1 - the child originates internally, #2 - the child is dwelling within, #3 - the child comes forth from the womb)

Because we are of God the World hates Us

John 7:7

but **the world hates Me** because I **testify** of it that its works are evil.

John 15:18-19

"If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. 19 "If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, **therefore the world hates you.** ^\$&^#^^%\$@(*&(*&(*%

What Unity is This ?

The Children in My House Came Forth From Me!

1 John 3:9

Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.

1 John 5:1

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well.

b.) Now we have His Spirit

v.4a

little children

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little children grk 5040 teknia (tek-nee'-a);

one born into the family. an infant child, a darling one (a Christian convert)

We Have Become His

Ephesians 2:1-2

And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,

Consider the alternative Genealogy

John 8:42-44

Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. 43 "Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. 44 "You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

What Unity is This ?

The Deception of The Cry for Unity
"We're Really Just One Big Family"

2.) *We have victory over the spirit*

vv. 4b

and have overcome them

We are at war with real and powerful enemies that seek to undermine the work of Jesus Christ in our lives.

This War will Last as Long as the World Exists

Romans 8:35-39

(the) **Who shall separate** us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. 37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. 38 For I am persuaded, that neither (**The What**) death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Christian fights From the Position of Victory

a.) *We've been given the victory*

v.4b

and have **overcome** them

How Do We Overcome? **By Acting Upon What is True**

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overcome grk3528 nikao (nik-ah'-o); to subdue the others. To conquer, to prevail,
ROOT = Nike - to be the victor over all the others

1 John 5:4

For whatever is **born of God** overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world-- our faith.

1 John 5:18

We know that whoever is **born of God** does not sin; but he who has been **born of God** keeps himself, and the wicked one **does not (cannot) touch him**.

The Work and Spirit of the Antichrist
Cannot Separate the Child of God from the Salvation of God

What Unity is This ?

b.) We have that victory over them

and have overcome **them**

*

them grk 846 autos (ow-tos');

those of a baffling or strange wind] (from a backward origin); the third person among two (odd)

The “Thems” are the ones

Other Than “Us” - The One’s of Verses 3&6

1 John 4:3

and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God.

And this **is the spirit of the Antichrist**, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

1 John 4:6

We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and **the spirit of error**.

The “Thems”

Are Those Who are in Gross Error in Spiritual Matters.

They are Those Who are not of the Family of God

They are Those Who left Unconverted

THE VICTORY IS OVER THE

False brethren in a personal way

2 Corinthians 11:24-26

From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. 25 Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; 26 in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among **false brethren**;

THE VICTORY WAS CONFIRMED

By The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Spiros Zodhiates, the greek and hebrew scholar states that for this fact alone the false teaching that says a Christian can be defeated by the world, possessed by an evil spirit or removed from the family of God is just not scriptures.

Romans 6:14

For sin shall not have **dominion over** you, for you are not under law but under grace.

The Deception of The Cry for Unity "We're Really Just One Big Family"

3.) *The world has been vanquished*

vv. 4c

because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

One of the Most Comforting Passages in All of the Bible

a.) *Because the Holy Spirit resides in us*

because He who is in you

The Victory is Ours By The Indwelling of Christ

He Owns You Out Right and is not About to Give You Away

John 16:7

"Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.

*

in you grk 1722 en (en);

A greek preposition demanding a "fixed position" That which has been put in place. A securing or taking over of.

John 14:16-18

"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever-- 17 "the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. 18 "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

Romans 5:5

Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Ephesians 1:13b-14

...in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Because a Christian is a child of God He/she gravitates toward the truth because he/she is literally Possessed by the Holy Spirit

CONVERSELY

A child of satan is one who does not gravitate toward The Truth but toward error because he/she is possessed by a spirit of error,

What Unity is This ?

The world has been vanquished

b.) *Because the world has no power*

is greater than

greater grk 3187 meizon (mide'-zone); by nature is larger, bigger, stronger, far more powerful, mightier beyond measure

Psalm 5:11

But let all those rejoice who put their trust in You; let them ever shout for joy, because You defend them; let those also who love Your name be joyful in You.

Psalm 145:3

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable.

c.) Because Satan has been judged

he who is in the world

* **world** grk 2889 kosmos (kos'-mos); the earth. The material universe.

Satan's Material World Is rapidly falling apart

He's Trying to Hold on to That Which is Rotting Away

**Can You Identify Any False Teachers
In a church, on the radio, or on a television program?**

#1

Content

Their message will contain truth but the truth that they bring will be laced with doctrinal errors

1 John 4:3

and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

#2

Congenitally

The false prophet and the antichrists in the world are most often charismatic and convincing. They are well liked and usually politically correct rather than being theologically correct.

1 John 4:5

They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them.

#3

Commercialism

They have no problem seeking out funds and finances from anyone who will give. They see no problem in merchandizing the message of the gospel for their own financial benefit. They love money and think about it often.

2 Peter 2:2-3

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;

#4

Character

Their lifestyle and spending are usually well secluded because of their way of living. They preach one thing but often live another, hidden life.

Jude 1:4

For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into **lewdness** and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

#5

Converts

Their converts are like them. Rather than being like Jesus Christ, they gather men to themselves and go about establishing followers who are dependent upon them rather than God

Matthew 7:15-16

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. 16 "You will know them by their fruits.

Application

What Unity is This ?

PRAYER