

No Son, No Father

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: I John 2:22-23.
- B. In his letter, John recognizes false Christianity.
- C. Real Christians have received the Spirit of truth and are able to exercise moral judgments.

II. The nature of error—the goal toward which all lies tend.

- A. All lies are a pathway that leads to the ultimate lie.
- B. Christ means Messiah—in which a Christian is anointed.
 - 1. John is referring to the work of the Lord.
 - 2. Jesus is the predicted Anointed One that Isaiah saw 725 years earlier.
 - 3. The work of the Messiah is to save.
 - 4. The great heart of the Christian proclamation is that Jesus is the Messiah who saves.
 - 5. People anointed in the Old Testament.
 - a. Prophets.
 - b. Priests.
 - c. Kings.
 - d. Jesus was God's prophet, priest and king.
 - e. Jesus will be all this to the believer today.
- C. The devil hates the truth that Jesus is the Messiah above all else.
 - 1. Many heretics such as the Christian Scientists claim that Jesus is the man but the spirit is the Christ.
 - a. This denies the Incarnation.
 - b. Jesus is identical with the Messiah.
 - 2. Believers are not to be deceived in any way. (I Thessalonians)
 - a. There are many antichrists at work already.

b. The coming of the Lawless One will be with wicked deception, and many will perish because they refused to love the truth.

3. To deny that Jesus is the Christ is also to deny the Father and the Son.

a. The one who denies the Christ ultimately will deny the Trinity.

b. In the Son, the fullness of the Deity dwells. (Colossians)

c. All things were created through and for Him. Creation is the expression of the Son.

d. The wisdom and the power of God can be made known through nature, but not the love of God.

e. Only in man was there a being that could receive the fullness of God and pour it back to God because man has the power of will, and love is always voluntary.

f. The whole story of creation is the story of the Father imparting His fullness to the Son, and the Son to man so that man can reflect God's glory. (I Corinthians 15)

g. However, in the fall man lost his awareness of the love of God resulting in the loss of the conception of the Fatherhood of God falling to the level of the animals.

h. The devil attacks the idea that Jesus is the Christ because he wants to prevent people from understanding again the idea that God is the Father.

i. The one who has seen Jesus has seen the Father.

j. The lie of Satan cuts a person off from all the blessings of God.

Application questions:

1. Why is it so critical to understand that Jesus is the Messiah? What does that mean?

2. How does a proper understanding of Jesus lead one to a proper understanding of God's nature?

3. How is the devil at work today to prevent people from understanding that Jesus is the Christ? How have you struggled in this area, and how can you help others?
