## "No Quarter for Antichrists" Short and Sweet, Pt. 2 - 2 John 7-13 July 7, 2019

## I. The Antichrist – 2 John 7

- A. Antichrist of 2 John 7 should not be equated with the Beast of Revelation or 2 Thess. 2's Man of Lawlessness.
- B. For John, antichrist was a *teaching*, with those who taught it being individual antichrists.
  - 1 John 2:18 Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour.
- C. Antichrist was the teaching that denied that Jesus was truly human.
- D. Such a denial also denies the Gospel itself.

Hebrews 2:14, 17 - <sup>14</sup> Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil...<sup>17</sup> Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

## II. John's Warning Concerning the *Teaching* of Antichrist – 2 John 8-9

- A. V. 8 Even partial adoption of, or association with, such false teachings could cost believers some heavenly rewards (see also 1 Cor. 3:10-15)!
- B. V. 9 Wholesale adoption of such heresies proves that a person is outside the faith; so keep clinging to the faith!

## III. John's Warning Concerning the *Teachers* of Antichrist – 2 John 10-11

- A. V. 10 Don't take them in; don't even greet them!
- B. V. 11 Don't do anything to show your support, and thus, participate with them in their heretical work, even accidentally!
- C. These were extreme measures in John's day.
- D. What does following John's words look like today?

- 1. First, remember that we're talking about those who blatantly deny *core* Christian doctrines
- 2. Also, we're talking about those who, at some level, claim to be speaking for the Christian faith, from inside it.
- 3. Lastly, we're talking about active *teachers* of fundamental heresies, not those on the verge of getting sucked in.
- 4. When it comes to someone or some "ministry" that fits the three qualifiers above:
  - a. We're to go out of our way to give them no aid -financially, socially, conversationally, etc.
  - b. Like John's readers, we too should be willing to violate social norms before participating in the work of heretics.
  - c. We should be as vigilant as John himself was regarding the antichrist Cerinthus:

"Let us fly, lest even the bath-house fall down, because Cerinthus, the enemy of the truth, is inside!"

E. Our willingness to avoid participation in the deceitful work of false teachers should be motivated by love for Christ and for His people.