

**1 John 2:18-3:3***Christian Standard Bible*

1 <sup>18</sup>Children, it is the last hour. And as you have heard that  
 2 antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come.  
 3 By this we know that it is the last hour. <sup>19</sup>They went out from  
 4 us, but they did not belong to us; for if they had belonged to  
 5 us, they would have remained with us. However, they went  
 6 out so that it might be made clear that none of them belongs to  
 7 us. <sup>20</sup>But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all  
 8 of you know the truth. <sup>21</sup>I have not written to you because you  
 9 don't know the truth, but because you do know it, and because  
 10 no lie comes from the truth. <sup>22</sup>Who is the liar, if not the one  
 11 who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This one is the antichrist:  
 12 the one who denies the Father and the Son. <sup>23</sup>No one who  
 13 denies the Son has the Father; he who confesses the Son has  
 14 the Father as well. <sup>24</sup>What you have heard from the  
 15 beginning is to remain in you. If what you have heard from  
 16 the beginning remains in you, then you will remain in the Son  
 17 and in the Father. <sup>25</sup>And this is the promise that he himself  
 18 made to us: eternal life. <sup>26</sup>I have written these things to you  
 19 concerning those who are trying to deceive you. <sup>27</sup>As for you,  
 20 the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you  
 21 don't need anyone to teach you. Instead, his anointing teaches  
 22 you about all things and is true and is not a lie; just as it has  
 23 taught you, remain in him. <sup>28</sup>So now, little children, remain  
 24 in him so that when he appears we may have confidence and  
 25 not be ashamed before him at his coming. <sup>29</sup>If you know that  
 26 he is righteous, you know this as well: Everyone who does  
 27 what is right has been born of him. <sup>3:1</sup> See what great love the  
 28 Father has given us that we should be called God's children—  
 29 and we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it  
 30 didn't know him. <sup>2</sup>Dear friends, we are God's children now,  
 31 and what we will be has not yet been revealed. We know that  
 32 when he appears, we will be like him because we will see him  
 33 as he is. <sup>3</sup>And everyone who has this hope in him purifies  
 34 himself just as he is pure.

**Observation (What does it say?):***What do you notice in this passage?*

- Underline causes or effects of wrong belief.
- Mark each mention of **F**ather, **S**on, or **H**oly Spirit.
- What other observations do you make?

**Interpretation (What does it mean?):***After observing the passage:*

- Why is John so concerned about accurate belief?
- What distinct characteristics or actions do you see for each Person of the godhead?
  - Father
  - Son
  - Holy Spirit
- What do the persons have in common?
- What questions come to mind as you read?
- How would you title this passage?

**Application (What does it mean for me?):**

- How might understanding the different persons in the godhead affect your relationship with God?
- How would you respond to someone who is confused about the Trinity?
- How might this passage affect how you present the gospel?

**Additional questions for thought and discussion:**

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**Inductive Bible Study**

(A few general ideas)

**Observation**  
**(What does it say?)**

What facts do you **observe** about the passage that help bring out the writer's thought process?

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose ("in order that...")?
- Are there conclusions ("Therefore...")?
- Are there explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good "headline" for the passage?

**Interpretation**  
**(What does it mean?)**

What questions come to mind about the facts that would help you **interpret** the meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer's thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

**Application**  
**(What does it mean for me?)**

What is the impact on your life? What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

**Read nothing into the Scriptures, but draw everything from them, and suffer nothing to remain hidden that is really in them.**  
**J.A. Bengel (1687-1752)**