

## Frauds, Fakes, And Dangerous Counterfeits

### Same Words, Different Dictionaries?

The “Last Hour” and “Last Days” refer to the **LAST ERA**, not the **LAST MOMENTS**.

1 John 2:18/ Hebrews 1:1-4/ Acts 2:15-21 & Joel 2:28-32

Antichrist is not a **NAME**. It's a **DESCRIPTION**.

It literally means **AGAINST** or **OPPOSED** to the Messiah.

### The Purpose of John's Big Book and His Little Letters

Who Jesus **WAS** and **IS**.

John 20:31/ John 14:6/ Hebrews 1:1-3/ Colossians 1:15-19

How to know the difference between a **GENUINE JESUS FOLLOWER** and a worthless **COUNTERFEIT**.

### The Passage:

1 John 2:18-29

### Eleven Clarifying Questions: A Take Home Test

#### *The Difference Between the Real Deal and Satan's Counterfeits*

1. Basic **MORALITY**: *Am I walking in the light I have?*  
1 John 1:5-7, 1 John 2:29
2. **HUMILITY**: *Will I admit that I'm a sinner in need of Jesus?*  
1 John 1:8-10
3. **OBEDIENCE**: *Am I obeying Jesus' commands?*  
1 John 2:3-5/ 1 John 5:1-5
4. **LOVE**: *Am I loving Jesus followers I don't agree with?*  
1 John 2:9-11/ 1 John 3:14-15/ 1 John 4:19-21
5. **PRIORITIES**: *Am I pursuing eternal rewards or just earthly rewards?*  
1 John 2:15-17
6. **PERSEVERANCE**: *Do I stick it out or bail out?*  
1 John 2:19
7. **JESUS**: *Is Jesus THE Messiah or A messiah?*  
1 John 2:22-23/ 1 John 4:1-3/ 1 John 5:9-12
8. **SIN**: *Am I making progress or making excuses?*  
1 John 3:6-10/ 1 John 5:18
9. **GENEROSITY**: *Do I love in deeds or just words?*  
1 John 3:16-18
10. **RESPONSE**: *Do I respond to Scripture as God's Word or good advice?*  
1 John 4:6
11. **THE HOLY SPIRIT**: *Am I being changed from the inside out?*  
1 John 4:13

## Frauds, Fakes, And Dangerous Counterfeits

### Same Words, Different Dictionaries?

The “Last Hour” and “Last Days” refer to  
the \_\_\_\_\_, not the \_\_\_\_\_.

1 John 2:18/ Hebrews 1:1-4/ Acts 2:15-21 & Joel 2:28-32

Antichrist is not a \_\_\_\_\_. It's a \_\_\_\_\_.

It literally means \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ to the Messiah.

### The Purpose of John's Big Book and His Little Letters

Who Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

John 20:31/ John 14:6/ Hebrews 1:1-3/ Colossians 1:15-19

How to know the difference between a \_\_\_\_\_  
and a worthless \_\_\_\_\_.

### The Passage:

1 John 2:18-29

### Eleven Clarifying Questions: A Take Home Test

#### *The Difference Between the Real Deal and Satan's Counterfeits*

1. Basic \_\_\_\_\_: *Am I walking in the light I have?*

1 John 1:5-7, 1 John 2:29

2. \_\_\_\_\_: *Will I admit that I'm a sinner in need of Jesus?*

1 John 1:8-10

3. \_\_\_\_\_: *Am I obeying Jesus' commands?*

1 John 2:3-5/ 1 John 5:1-5

4. \_\_\_\_\_: *Am I loving Jesus followers I don't agree with?*

1 John 2:9-11/ 1 John 3:14-15/ 1 John 4:19-21

5. \_\_\_\_\_: *Am I pursuing eternal rewards or just earthly rewards?*

1 John 2:15-17

6. \_\_\_\_\_: *Do I stick it out or bail out?*

1 John 2:19

7. \_\_\_\_\_: *Is Jesus THE Messiah or A messiah?*

1 John 2:22-23/ 1 John 4:1-3/ 1 John 5:9-12

8. \_\_\_\_\_: *Am I making progress or making excuses?*

1 John 3:6-10/ 1 John 5:18

9. \_\_\_\_\_: *Do I love in deeds or just words?*

1 John 3:16-18

10. \_\_\_\_\_: *Do I respond to Scripture as God's Word or good advice?*

1 John 4:6

11. \_\_\_\_\_: *Am I being changed from the inside out?*

1 John 4:13

## Life Group Study Questions

For the week of January 28, 2024

### QUICK REVIEW

What point or idea have you remembered most since hearing this weekend's message?

### MY STORY

1. This weekend, we talked about telling the difference between the real deal Christian and a counterfeit so we don't get led astray. What's the most embarrassing lie, scam, joke, or prank you've ever fallen for or believed?

2. Larry gave definitions for the "last hour/days" and "antichrist." Do you agree or disagree with these definitions? When you heard them, were they different than what you had previously heard, or did they fit your understanding of those terms?

### DIGGING DEEPER

1. Larry pointed out two dangers to avoid—blind trust, where we overly depend on Bible teachers to tell us what's true, and arrogance, where we think we alone have the proper understanding of something. Which one of these do you more commonly fall into the trap of?

Acts 17:11-12 shows us an honorable and balanced approach to verifying teaching. Read the verses. What do you think it would look like for us at North Coast Church to do this after hearing the weekend teaching?

**Acts 17:11-12 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>11</sup> Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. <sup>12</sup> As a result, many of them believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men.

Notice, the Berean Jews are not examining the Scriptures out of skepticism but out of eagerness. When you hear something about God or the Bible you're not sure about, how do you typically respond? What posture do you have, and what steps, if any, do you take?

2. This weekend, we looked at eleven clarifying questions to tell the difference between the real deal and a counterfeit Christian. These questions are meant to give us assurance, not to bring us guilt for not measuring up. Before we take a closer look at those, read 2 Corinthians 13:5-10.

**2 Corinthians 13:5-10 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>5</sup> Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test? <sup>6</sup> And I trust that you will discover that we have not failed the test. <sup>7</sup> Now we pray to God that you will not do anything wrong—not so that people will see that we have stood the test but so that you will do what is right even though we may seem to have failed. <sup>8</sup> For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. <sup>9</sup> We are glad whenever we are weak but you are strong; and our prayer is that you may be fully restored. <sup>10</sup> This is why I write these things when I am absent, that when I come I may not have to be harsh in my use of authority—the authority the Lord gave me for building you up, not for tearing you down.

Paul also meant for these words to be an encouragement, not a guilt trip. Read 2 Corinthians 13:5-10 again in The Message version of the Bible ([messagebible.com](http://messagebible.com)).

**2 Corinthians 13:5-10 The Message**

<sup>5-9</sup> Test yourselves to make sure you are solid in the faith. Don't drift along taking everything for granted. Give yourselves regular checkups. You need firsthand evidence, not mere hearsay, that Jesus Christ is in you. Test it out. If you fail the test, do something about it. I hope the test won't show that we have failed. But if it comes to that, we'd rather the test showed our failure than yours. We're rooting for the truth to win out in you. We couldn't possibly do otherwise. We don't just put up with our limitations; we celebrate them, and then go on to celebrate every strength, every triumph of the truth in you. We pray hard that it will all come together in your lives. <sup>10</sup> I'm writing this to you now so that when I come I won't have to say another word on the subject. The authority the Master gave me is for putting people together, not taking them apart. I want to get on with it, and not have to spend time on reprimands.

When you are asked to evaluate yourself, would you say your natural tendency is to be encouraged and give yourself a pat on the back for what you're doing well or to be hard on yourself for what you could do better?

What do "regular checkups" or examining your faith look like in your life? How often would you say you do that, and what do you do?

One of the tools we can use to examine our faith is the list of eleven questions Larry provided out of 1 John. If you were to give yourself a "checkup" right now with those questions, how do you think you're doing? Are you encouraged? Is there something you want to celebrate? Is there something you want to do something about?

Another purpose of this list of questions is to be able to discern if others who claim to have a new or deeper spiritual insight are “real deal” Christians. When you think about others, how easy do you think it is to tell if people have these eleven things or not? Are there some that are easier for you to notice or discern than others? Explain.

#### TAKING IT HOME

1. Is there one thing you want to focus on or remember from this week’s teaching?

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

→

→

→

→

→



**COMMUNITY  
SERVICE**

#### IMPACT YOUR COMMUNITY

Looking to serve with your Life Group?

To check out all your options, go to [NorthCoastCommunityService.org](http://NorthCoastCommunityService.org).