



CONTINUE IN HIM

1 JOHN 2:18-29

1 JOHN

- **One of only two New Testament Epistles (letters) in which the author does not identify themselves (the other is Hebrews)**
- **We cannot know for certain, but authorship has most commonly been attributed to John the Apostle**
 - **One of Jesus' closest disciples**
 - **Probably the author of the four other New Testament books (The Gospel of John, 2 John, 3 John, Revelation)**
 - **Evidence for this includes: literary style, testimony as an eye-witness, authoritative tone, indication of close ties to Christ**
- **Purposes for writing identified in the text include...**
 - **To expose false gnostic teaching (and associated lack of morality), to identify Christ and to give assurances of faith**

SEE LIGHT, BE LIGHT

- **From 1 John 1 & 2:1-11...**
 - We have light
 - We are light
 - We must walk in the light
 - Living out the truth = loving people ~ loving God
- **From 1 John 2:12-14**
 - Be Affirmed - your sins are forgiven and you know the Father
 - Be Reminded - Our God has always been and always will be The Lord
 - Be Encouraged - You have and will overcome the evil one by the Word of God
- **From 1 John 2:15-17**
 - Our priority to is to love God over the corrupt and broken order of this world



1 JOHN 2

18 Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour. 19 They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us.



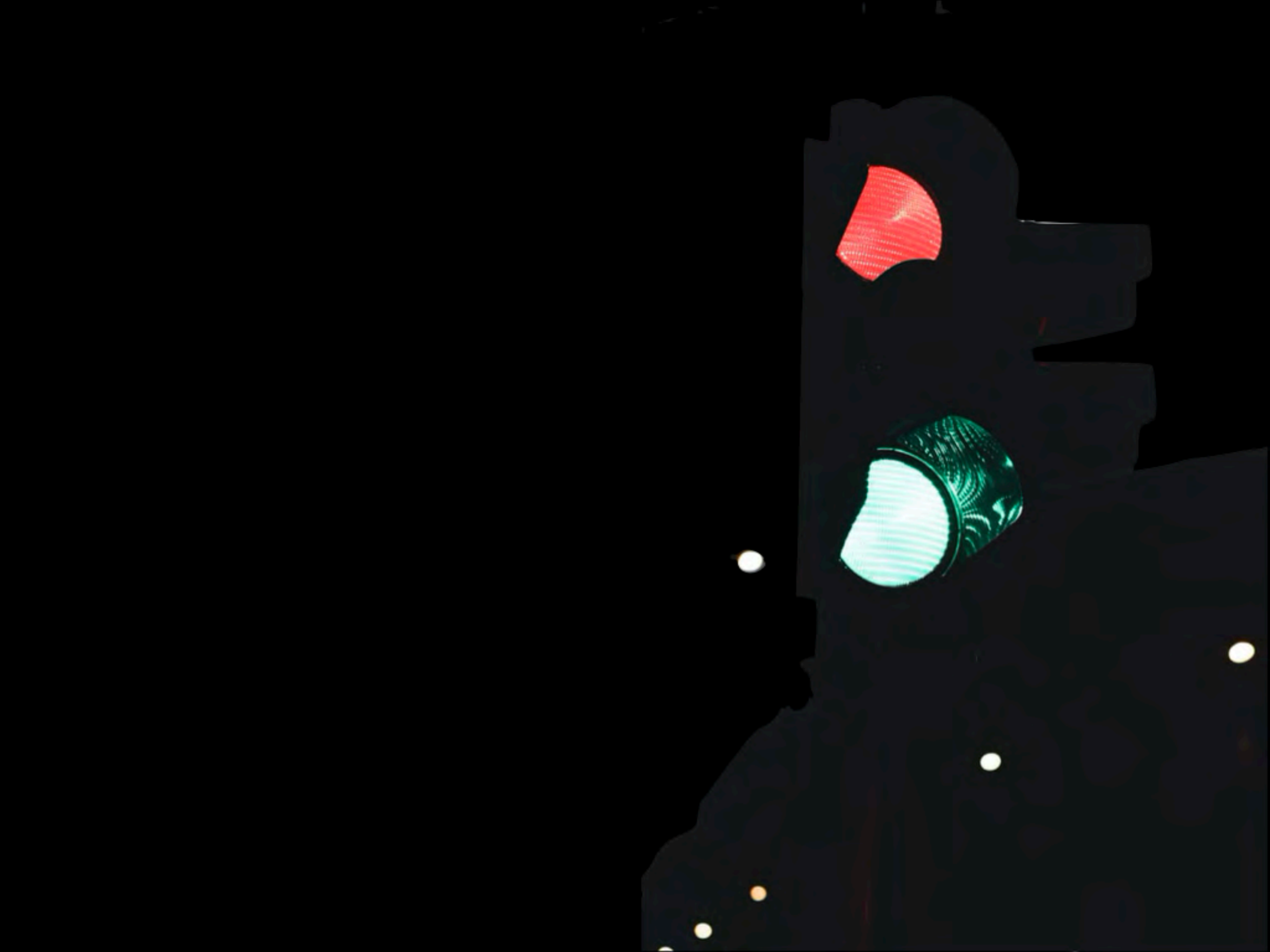
1 JOHN 2

20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth. 21 I do not write to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and because no lie comes from the truth. 22 Who is the liar? It is whoever denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a person is the antichrist—denying the Father and the Son. 23 No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also. 24 As for you, see that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father.

1 JOHN 2

25 And this is what he promised us—eternal life.

26 I am writing these things to you about those who are trying to lead you astray. 27 As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit—just as it has taught you, remain in him. 28 And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming. 29 If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been born of him.



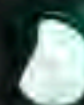
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THE LAST HOUR

- **Are we in the last days?**
 - Yes - but only God knows the length of those last days
- **These words were written nearly 2000 years ago but are still every bit as relevant today**
- **The last days began when Christ became flesh**
- **'Last days' or 'End of the age'**
 - Acts 16-17, Heb 1:1-2, 1 Cor 10:11, Heb 9:26



THE LAST HOUR

- **Is Covid-19 the antichrist / a sign of the end times?**
- **We are closer to the end of the age than John was!**
- **We should be living with an urgency in sharing the Good News of God's Kingdom**



THE ANTICHRIST

- **What do we mean by the antichrist?**
 - The one who denies Christ
 - It seems for John there was a particular antichrist to come but also 'spirit of antichrist' already at work
- **We don't always know what in the world is true!**
 - Our 'cosmos' is under the influence of evil
 - Which is why we to love God and His ways over this world and its ways
- **When we understand what we mean by the Christ we are able to discern that which is antichrist**

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WE KNOW THE TRUTH

- **The Truth: We know Him (John 4:24)**
 - The world sees truth as a concept, we know it is a person
- **'Greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world' (1 Jn 4:4)**
- **Because we have an anointing we know the Father, through the Son and by The Spirit**
- **We can trust the Spirit who is in us to guide and to keep us in the truth**

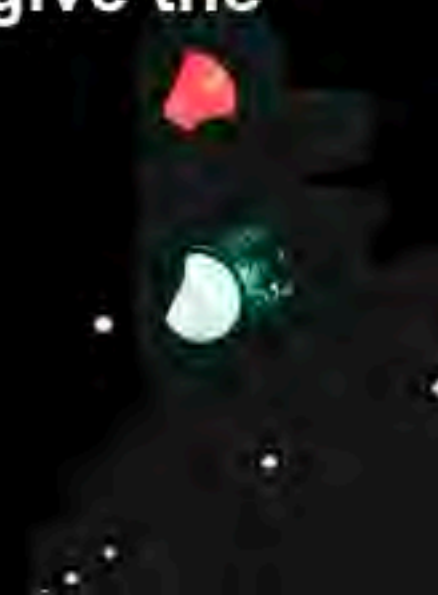
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HOLD TO THE PROMISE

- **We have a promise - eternal life**
 - We shall not perish
 - No Coronavirus can separate us from the love of God!
- **Do not be led astray at this time**
 - Trust His Spirit to guide and teach you
 - This does not mean you abandon sound teaching and doctrine,
 - This means you realise that the Spirit is the one who give the greatest revelation of the Son



REMAIN IN HIM

- **He is going to return**
- **We can face him confident and unashamed**
- **Remain, continue, abide, dwell, rest in Him**
 - **In His truth**
 - **In His word**
 - **In His Spirit**
 - **In His body, the church**



NOW IS A TIME TO CONTINUE

- You may have to remain at home but we do not have to remain static in our faith
- You do not stand still when you remain in Him
- Where we find ourselves today is not a moment to shrink back or abandon our faith or our churches
- This is a time to remain in Him
 - To go higher and see things more clearly from His perspective
 - To draw nearer and hear and share His voice more clearly