

HOPE FOR OUR TROUBLED TIMES
DEALING WITH DECEIVERS
1 JOHN 2:18–27



The Heart of the Matter

Hymn-writer Isaac Watts could have had our generation in mind when he wrote “Am I a Soldier of the Cross” back in 1724. Am I a soldier of the cross? A follower of the Lamb? Shall I fear to own His cause or blush to speak His name? Great questions . . . *searching* questions that we cannot answer for someone else. We must address them personally. In doing so, we admit that a battle is raging . . . and we are soldiers of the cross. Most on this planet have trouble seeing the kind of conflict Watts had in mind. However, it is the same conflict the apostle John wrote of in his first letter—a battle between truth and error, between orthodoxy and heresy.



Discovering the Way

1. Declaring a Conflict Many Would Deny

Powers invisible to the naked eye wage a real and relentless war all around us. The enemy relies heavily on its greatest tactic: deception.

2. Announcing and Exposing Heresy (1 John 2:18–27)

As we encounter heresy, we must understand the difference between heretics and believers, explain the nature and the results of heresy, and claim God’s safeguards against deceivers.



Starting Your Journey

To walk in triumph, we must renew our commitment to the Word of God, stand firm in our convictions, and stay focused on Christ.



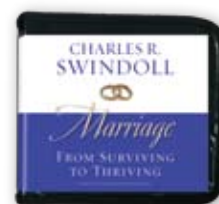
Tools for Digging Deeper



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