

LIVING RIGHT IN A WRONG WORLD
DEALING WITH DECEIVERS
1 JOHN 2:18–27



The Heart of the Matter

If you are a follower of Christ, are you embarrassed to speak His name or afraid to defend His cause in public? Do you believe that no spiritual battles are worth fighting or that the world is a friend who will help you know God better? These searching questions often surface a philosophical tug-of-war within. As we answer them for ourselves, we must acknowledge that a battle is raging. Most people have trouble seeing where the battle lines are drawn. However, it is the same conflict John wrote of in his first letter—it is the battle between truth and error, between orthodoxy and heresy.



Discovering the Way

1. Declaring a Conflict Many Would Deny

A war is on—an invisible war—though many would deny it. It is the war to destroy human souls, and the opening salvo and earliest tactic of this war was deception.

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

Deceivers hate exposure. They'd rather operate in the dark, where they can spread the toxic fumes of heresy undetected. But lest we fall victim, we must understand the differences between deceivers and genuine believers (2:18–21), explain the nature and results of heresy (2:22–23), and claim the safeguards against deceivers (24–27).



Starting Your Journey

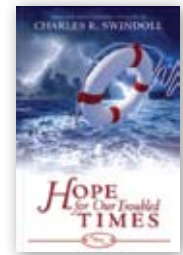
We don't have to be defeated by deception. We can walk in triumph, if we renew our commitment to the Word of God, stand firm in our convictions, and stay focused on Christ.



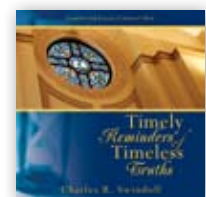
Tools for Digging Deeper



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