

## Remnant Life Church

August 2, 2015

The Signs of the Times: Dealing with Deception

(Introduction)

I John 2:18-24

Last Week:

1. Listening and obeying the voice of the Holy Spirit
2. Loving the people around us especially those who do not know Jesus
3. Knowing God's Word

- Deception = a lie
  - A lie is only as effective as the amount of truth that it holds
  - A pure, 100% lie is easy to spot; it must seem enough like the truth to bring doubt
  - The source of all deception is Satan (John 8:44 – father of lies)
  - John's book of Revelation tells us that in the last days the Antichrist and the False Prophet will deceive many by their words and actions
    - # The deceptive words will be words of peace and comfort
    - # The deceptive actions will be supernatural power appearing to be like God
- John warns us that the last days will be characterized by deception
  - (I John 2:18-20) - *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. 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. But you are not like that, for the Holy One has given you his Spirit, and all of you know the truth.*
  - John writes in his gospel that all Satan wants is to steal, kill, and destroy God's people (John 10:10)

1. Steal your Joy in Christ
2. Kill your heaven-bound spirit
3. Destroy your right as a child of God to exercise all that we have been given to overcome the temptations and hardships of this life

- How does he accomplish this? Through deception!

- **READ – I John 2:21-24**

- What does the deception look like and who does it target?
  - He targets every Christian
  - This is not to say that if you have been deceived that you are a poor Christian
  - We all struggle with and experience times of these weaknesses