

2 John

a personal letter from the Apostle John to an unknown sister in Ephesus...about 90 AD

- an exhortation of Love and Truth
- a warning regarding false teachers

v1-2 The elder:

John never refers to himself by name...a reflection of his humility...
a mark of holiness in a man's life...to be modeled by fathers

Gospel of Matthew: "Matthew the publican"

Gospel of Mark: Peter dictating to Mark...not even his name!

- All of his "foot in mouth" moments
- None of his glorious moments

Gospel of Luke: his name is nowhere in 2 books

Gospel of John: "the disciple whom Jesus loved"

THE Elder...John is the only remaining Apostle...all the others have been
martyred

Of those that walked with Jesus, he alone is left

Unto the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth:
"chosen"

John loves the Lord God...and he loves God's children

1 John 1:10

1 John 4:11-12

For the truth's sake:

because there is fellowship (agreement) and communion in the truth

- The Spirit is truth (1 John 5:6)
- Jesus is the Truth (John 14:6)
- The Word is Truth (John 17:17)

...that's why he is writing this letter...why wrote so long after the
others...that the truth be known

Shall be with us forever:

the indivisible God is with us FOREVER...

the indivisible God and man born of God are an eternal,
unchanging, indivisible One

Jesus Christ promised to never leave us nor forsake us...

None who are sealed of God are lost

Eph 1:13-14

Eph 4:30

v3 Grace...mercy...peace...in truth and love:
as with the letters of Paul, the sequence in the greeting is highly significant

the content of the greeting is also significant

- grace (*charis*): a typical Greek greeting
- peace (*shalom*): a typical Hebrew greeting

in the Father and the Son of the Father, Greek and Jew come together

Note: the only place Jesus being referred to as “Son of the Father”
(appropriate, here on Father’s Day...)

5 unspeakable gifts from the indivisible God Almighty...

1. grace
2. mercy
3. peace
4. truth
5. love

...for those in fellowship/agreement with Him

1 John 2:22-23

cannot have the Father without the Son...

antichrist does not agree with God...for example...

these gifts are from:

1. God the Father
2. **the Lord** Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father

kurios means either

- “God”
- “sir”...a human title of honor

[Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance]

[New World Translation]

[The Kingdom Interlinear Translation]

James Rutherford, who failed Greek in college, rejected “God”,
“sir” made no sense...so erased “the Lord” in his
translation

and he also added words when it fit his theology...[John 1:1]

Oh how subtle is the deceiver!

JW...an end times (published in 1961) deception and denial of
the deity of Jesus Christ

...a fulfillment of 1 Tim 4:1

v4 I found thy children walking in truth:
John rejoices that this sister's children are

- walking in the talk
- living/abiding in Jesus Christ
- bearing fruit

“PTL! You have raised your children up in love and truth...
you have lived your faith before them...
and now they have embraced that saving faith as their own.”

Prov 22:6 responsibility is given to the father, as head
Deut 6:4-9

Fathers, we all want this for our children, do we not?
That is why we have a Children's Ministry – to come alongside you and
reinforce your faith and your teaching at home

Those people are loving your children and serving the Lord God Almighty
If you love your children, love them all and serve the Lord in the
Children's Ministry and be used to shape tomorrow's church

Consider the flip-side of John's rejoicing...
so many “believers” do not continue in the faith

- they backslide...
tempted by the deceiver
lusting after the things of the world
- they are apostate...
walking by sight...
not by faith and in truth
- ...and their children follow them

shipwrecked...because they are not

- grounded in the Word of God
- willing to die to self and love selflessly
- sold-out to Jesus
- Spirit-filled and Spirit-led

v5 now I beseech thee, lady,...love one another:
the 10th such admonishment in John's writings of the Lord's
Commandment to us

so why the obvious reminder?

- we cannot be reminded too much, now can we?
- perhaps she was “wandering” from it...or
- perhaps there were lions roaming about...

v6 and this is love, that we walk:

first, must define our terms...love is...

- obedience to the Father
- action
- willful denial of self for the benefit of another

God first loved us (1 John 4:10)...so

God's commandment is that we love...live in His love...
receiving it, returning it, sharing it...
that it govern our actions, words, and thoughts

v7 For many deceivers...antichrist:

Caution! A “yellow flag” in the race we are running...
There are lions roaming around...imposters and
counterfeits looking to destroy God’s children

Therefore, Love must be discerning...not naïve and unthinking
God is love...God is truth...The Word is truth...
so Love is grounded in truth...the Word of God

The warning:

- Don’t be fooled by a “loving, gentle, kind” person...

cultist
philosopher
religious person
evolutionist...

- who denies the identity (deity) of Jesus Christ...
(very, very few people deny the history of Jesus...
the vast majority deny the identity of Jesus Christ)

AND that He entered into His creation in the flesh

1 John 4:1-3

- who denies not only that Jesus came in the flesh but...
”is coming” in the flesh!

“is come”: “used only in present tense”

i.e. Jesus Christ came, died, was buried, rose again,
ascended...and is coming back...
in the flesh!

- Don’t accept advice but that which is supported by the
Word of God
- Don’t be unequally yoked...don’t hang out with deceivers...
 - Light does not hang out with darkness
 - Selfless love...selfish love
 - Life...death
 - Truth...lie

Eph 4:1-6

v8 Look to yourselves that we lose not those things:
Beware...Be on guard...Be alert...at ALL times!

hold onto...cling to...the truth you have received

don't let Satan rip you off of your joy by some deception or philosophy
Col 2:8

but that we receive a full reward:

1 Cor 3:10-15

Build wisely!
Build with the things of God (all of which are eternal)...
not the things of the world (all of which will burn up)
Build with Jesus...
not children of disobedience/disagreement/deniers of God

v9 transgresseth and abideth not:
those who violate/deny and do not live in...

doctrine of Christ:

- the Law of Love...selfless and sacrificial...for God and others
Gal 6:1-2
1 Cor 8, Rom 14
- I AM
The Lord's consist, persistent message while He walked among us
(His disciples did not but the Pharisees heard Jesus loud
and clear!)

Jesus Christ is the Lord God Almighty...
this is essential, non-negotiable, uncompromising truth...
worthy of division (v3, Matt 10:34)
the truth cannot be in unity with a lie

it is not enough to say we believe...we must live that belief

being born-again...a man born of God...
is more than just a statement of belief...
it is a lifestyle and a world-view
(how you see the world around you)

issue: obedience...submission
do you live like a child of God...or a child of the devil?

hath both the Father and the Son:

because the Son cannot be separated from the Father and
the Father cannot be separated from the Son

John 10:30

1 John 2:22-23

v10-11 bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house:

What do you do if a JW or a Mormon or any other false Christian/cultist
comes to your front door to share/teach his religion?

Invite him in? No!

Stand in the door way and ask him just one question:

Who do you say Jesus is?

If the response denies the deity of Jesus Christ (100% God, 100% man),
share the simple beauty and life-changing power of

- God's love
- the Gospel of Grace...

and send him on his way (or chase him out of your neighborhood)

Do not

- entertain error
- give your hospitality to one who denies the Giver of that gift
- encourage the Lord's opponents
- allow that deceiving spirit in your house...
protect your children!

2 Cor 11:3-4

- even say "good-bye" to them...

(if some in your biological family are false Christians/cultists,
love them with a broken heart, pray for them...
don't debate your world views around the children)

partaker of his evils:

do not give a false teacher a platform to sow seeds of poison...
or you will share in the reaping of that which he sows

Gal 6:7-8

A very powerful warning to be discerning...be faithful to the Word of God

v12 paper and ink:
or sheepskin and ink

I trust to come unto you:
I hope to come see you face-to-face
The joy of fellowship is face-to-face

Letters cannot express most of the message

- tone of voice
- body language
- facial expression
- attitude

v13 the children of thy elect sister greet thee:
“Hi, Auntie Elect! Good-bye, Auntie Elect!”

Fathers...take this letter to heart