

Flag Branch Missionary Baptist Church  
Baptist Training Union

**1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> John**  
How Should A Christian Live

**Study 12 – Walk in Truth and Love: – 2 John**

1. The elder, to the elect lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all those having known the truth—
2. Because of the truth abiding in us and that will be with us to the age:
3. Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.
4. I rejoiced exceedingly that I have found some of your children walking in truth, just as we have received a commandment from the Father.
5. And now I implore you, lady, not as though I am writing to you a new commandment, but that which we have had from the beginning, that we should love one another.
6. And this is love, that we should walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, so that you should walk in it.
7. For many deceivers have entered into the world, those not confessing Jesus Christ coming in flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist.
8. Watch yourselves, so that you should not lose what things we have worked for<sup>a</sup>, but you may receive a full reward.
9. Anyone going on ahead, and not abiding in the teaching of Christ, does not have God. The one abiding in the teaching, this one has both the Father and the Son.
10. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into the house, and do not tell him to rejoice.
11. For the one telling him to rejoice partakes in his evil works.
12. Having many things to write to you, I purposed not with paper and ink, but I hope to come to you and to speak mouth to mouth, so that our joy may be having been completed.
- 13The children of your elect sister greet you. <sup>b</sup>

a 8 NE and WH what you have worked for

b 13 BYZ and TR include Amen.

## Discussion

- A. **Who are "the chosen lady and her children" (v. 1)?**
- B. **What does it mean to "love in the truth" (v. 1)?** How does this phrase prevent Christians from falling into the trap of accepting false teachings in the name of "love" or "tolerance"?
- C. **How is "walking in truth" (v. 4) connected to "walking in love" (v. 6)?** Why does John argue that true, biblical love cannot exist apart from truth?
- D. **How does John define love in verse 6?** Why is it crucial to understand that love is defined by obedience to God's commands rather than just an emotion?
- E. **What does it mean that many "deceivers" have gone out into the world (v. 7)?** How can we identify these "antichrists" in our contemporary world?
- F. **What is the specific, essential doctrine John says must be acknowledged (v. 7)?** Why is the confession of Jesus Christ coming "in the flesh" so vital to the Christian faith?
- G. **What does it mean to "lose what you have worked for" (v. 8)?** How does adopting false doctrine affect a believer's, or a church's, spiritual reward or effectiveness?
- H. **How does verse 9 ("Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ...") define the danger of "progressive" or "new" revelations?** Why must Christians remain anchored in the original teachings of Christ?
- I. **How do you reconcile the command to not receive certain people into your house (v. 10) with the general biblical duty of hospitality?** How should we apply this to modern, daily Christian fellowship?
- J. **Why does John prioritize speaking "face to face" over writing with paper and ink (v. 12)?** What does this tell us about the importance of personal presence in spiritual encouragement?