



# Walking in the Truth

## 2 John 1-13

# From the last living apostle

- 1-3 The Elder, To the elect lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all those who have known the truth, <sup>2</sup>because of the truth which abides in us and will be with us forever:
- <sup>3</sup>Grace, mercy, *and* peace will be with [b]you from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

# From the last living apostle

- John writes as “the Elder”
  - Near end of 1<sup>st</sup> century (90 AD)
  - One who was so close to Jesus
  - What he has to say at end of his life
- To the elect lady and her children
  - A congregation and its members?
  - A real person and her physical children  
(Either way, the point is the same)

# Our relationship to the truth

- v 4 I rejoiced greatly that I have found *some* of your children walking in truth, as we received commandment from the Father.
  - Their relationship is based on truth (5 times)
    - The truth is under attack/Postmodernism
    - “Whatever you think is right is right for you”
    - Core tenet to deny the concept of objective truth
  - Religiously (whatever makes you happy is fine)

# The life lived because of truth

- 5-6 And now I plead with you, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment to you, but that which we have had from the beginning: that we love one another. <sup>6</sup>This is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, that as you have heard from the beginning, you should walk in it.
  - John does not write a new commandment
  - Hold on to what has already been given
  - That we love one another (John 13:34)
  - True love is obeying His commandments (Jn 14:15)

# Warning: Beware of deceivers

- 7-8 For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ *as* coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. <sup>8</sup> Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but *that* we may receive a full reward.
  - Deceivers/antichrist
  - 90 AD most had not seen Jesus
  - Denying Jesus was a real person
  - The truth matters (1 Tim 3:16)

# Our fellowship is limited by truth

- 9-10 Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. <sup>10</sup> If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; <sup>11</sup> for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.
- Difficult for Christians (Jesus wants us to love everybody)
- Being open to everyone can lead to compromise
- When you leave the teaching of Jesus, you leave the fellowship
- Truth is the reason we are saved (1 Peter 1:22)



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