

A serene sunset over a beach with tall grass in the foreground. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow across the sky and reflecting on the water. The foreground is filled with dark, silhouetted grasses.

Living Truthfully in the Family of God

2 John

Bert Allen

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Acknowledgment

My wife, Beverly Allen, has devoted herself to ChristAssembly.org. Most days her body gives her trouble, but she spends time helping ChristAssembly.org. She brings her doctoral training in biochemistry and molecular biology to her work and greatly improves the quality of ChristAssembly.org. She has spent many hours creating graphics, reviewing articles and books, and providing careful proof reading, even when she does not feel her best. Other friends from Korea have helped in proof reading books for ChristAssembly.org, with our thanks in Christ Jesus for their friendship and faithful labors.

Beverly and I have been married more than forty years and Jesus used her life to make my life so much better in so many ways. Her constant love and support changes my life daily. She also provides honest feedback and careful analysis. I love my wife and want everyone to know that she spends her time serving Jesus behind the scenes at ChristAssembly.org.



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1

Introduction

John the elder wrote to the chosen lady and her children. He was very happy to hear that some of her children were walking in the truth. He expressed his deep concerns about their continued spiritual welfare. He wanted them to continue walking in the truth and to love one another.

John warned that many deceivers have gone into the world who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. John said that many deceivers and the anti-Christ deny that Jesus has come in the flesh. John did not want anyone to lose what they had accomplished together in Christ.

False teachers were proclaiming doctrine contrary to what Jesus said. Anyone who does not abide in the teaching of Christ does not have God. Anyone abiding in the teaching of Christ has both the Father and the Son. John exhorted the chosen lady and her children not to allow the false teachers into their homes and not to give them a greeting. Anyone who greets them participates in their evil.

John closed out his epistle by reminding them that he hoped to come see them soon face-to-face. John also passed on greetings from the children of the chosen sister.

HALLELUJAH !

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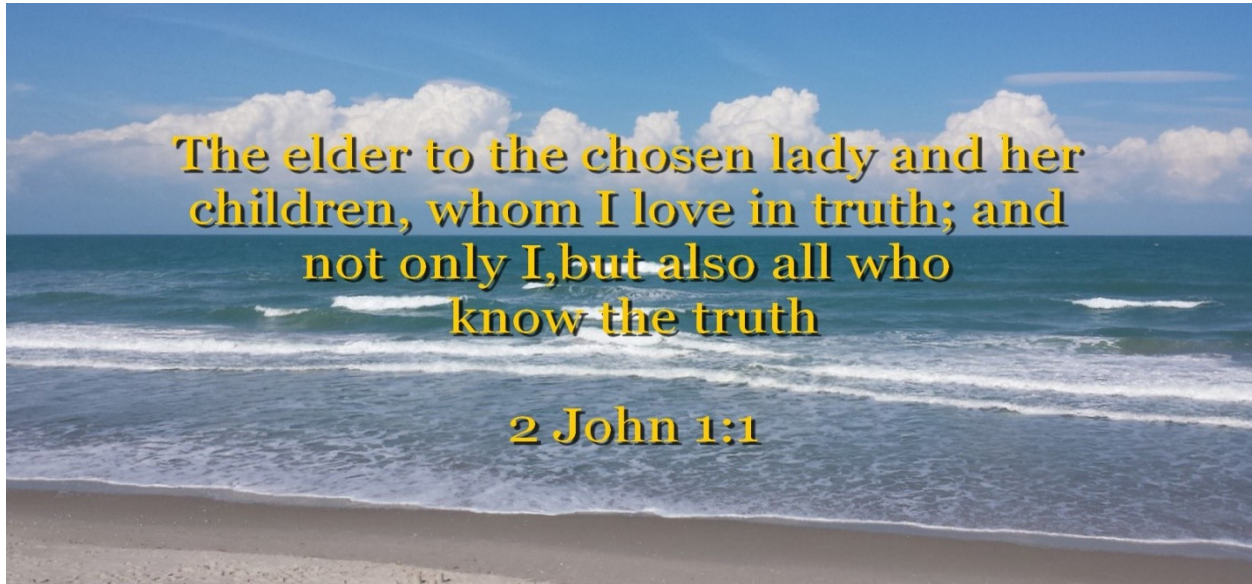
Greeting the Chosen Lady and Her Children

John identified himself as the elder writing to the chosen lady and her children. He loved her and her children in truth. John then explained that not only he loved them, but all who know the truth, which abides in us and will be with us forever. John emphasized the truth of God. John greeted the woman and her children with 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.

HALLELUJAH !

Day One

Love Today



To whom did John write? John wrote to the chosen lady and her children.

John described himself as the elder. New Testament elders provided leadership functions to the church and some elders were appointed to the Church Office of Overseer. John had a wonderful relationship with the chosen lady and her children.

John stated that he loved the chosen lady in truth. John elaborated that not only did he love the chosen lady, but also all who know the truth. For John, the truth was a unifying part of his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior. John was very concerned that many deceivers were coming into the world. Therefore, holding fast to the truth provided a shield against spiritual error.

John had close personal relationships with other Christians built upon mutual love for the Lord Jesus Christ. When John addressed the chosen lady, it was addressing somebody that God chose for salvation. The chosen lady had children that also partook of the truth. John knew other people that also participated in his greeting.

Truth

1. **Elder**. John wrote as an elder and he held the Church Office of Apostle.

2. **Chosen**. John wrote to the chosen lady, but we do not have much more information about her.

3. **Children**. The chosen lady also had children, apparently referring to believers.

4. **Love**. The chosen lady and her children all love the truth.

5. **Truth**. Jesus declared that He is the truth, the word of God is truth, and the word of God sanctifies people in the truth.

6. **All**. Living truthfully in the family of God means John wrote not only on his own behalf, but also for all who know the truth.

7. **Walk**. We rejoice today because John, the chosen lady and her children, and others know the truth.

Summary for Today

- **We live truthfully in the family of God by taking the time to greet one another to know the truth.**
- **We live truthfully in the family of God by understanding that the truth binds believers together in love for the truth.**
- **We live together truthfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to love the truth and know the truth and share that love with others who also love the truth and know the truth.**

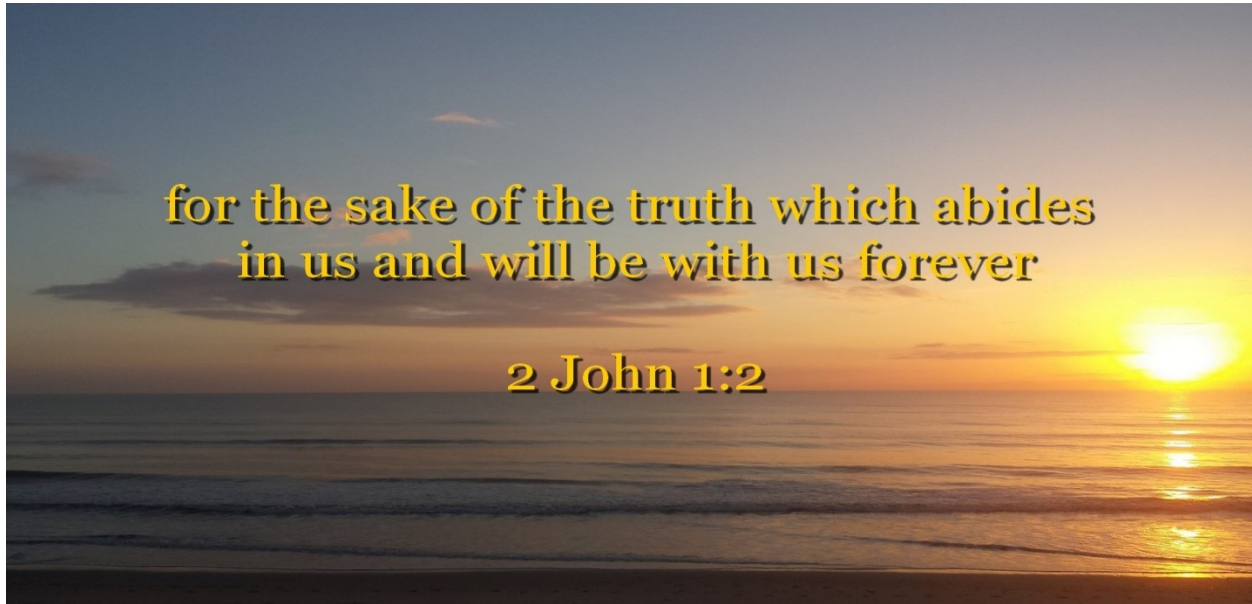
Application for Today

Today, we may live truthfully in the family of God by sharing our love for the truth and knowledge of the truth with others. Will you live truthfully in the family of God today by greeting other people who love the truth and know the truth?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two

Truth Today



What did John say about the truth? John devoted his writing to the truth.

John said he wrote for the sake of the truth which abides in us and will be with us forever. John tied that truth to his love for the chosen lady and her children.

Jesus declared Himself to be the truth. He also said that He loves to sanctify believers in the truth and the word is the truth. The truth never changes, just like Jesus never changes. The truth remains the truth whether we know the truth or not.

Because we know the truth, we can share the truth with others and enjoy the truth together. John described the truth as something that can be in us and with us forever. Jesus certainly fits that description. Truth has a quality all its own, because it describes reality as it really is. Jesus said that the things that we seem are temporal, but the things we do not see are eternal.

Jesus always spoke the truth and never lied. He brought the truth into our lives and we came to know the truth. Jesus said the children of the devil speak lies because Satan is the father of lies. No lie is of the truth. In Jesus there are no lies, but only the truth. One truth brings great joy into our lives and that is that God loves us in truth.

Forever

1. **For**. John used the word “For” to link to the previous verse.
2. **Sake**. We love for the sake of the truth which abides in us.
3. **Truth**. John devoted himself and his letter to the truth found in God and in the family of God.
4. **Abides**. John indicated that the truth abides in us.
5. **In**. Not only does the truth abide with us, but it also abides in us.
6. **With**. Living truthfully in the family of God means the truth will be with us forever and ever.
7. **Forever**. We rejoice today because the truth will be with us forever by the power of God and the love of God.

Summary for Today

- **We live truthfully in the family of God by thanking God for the sake of the truth which abides in us and will be with us forever.**
- **We live truthfully in the family of God by remembering God brought the truth into our lives.**
- **We live together truthfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember the sake of the truth which abides in us and will be with us forever.**

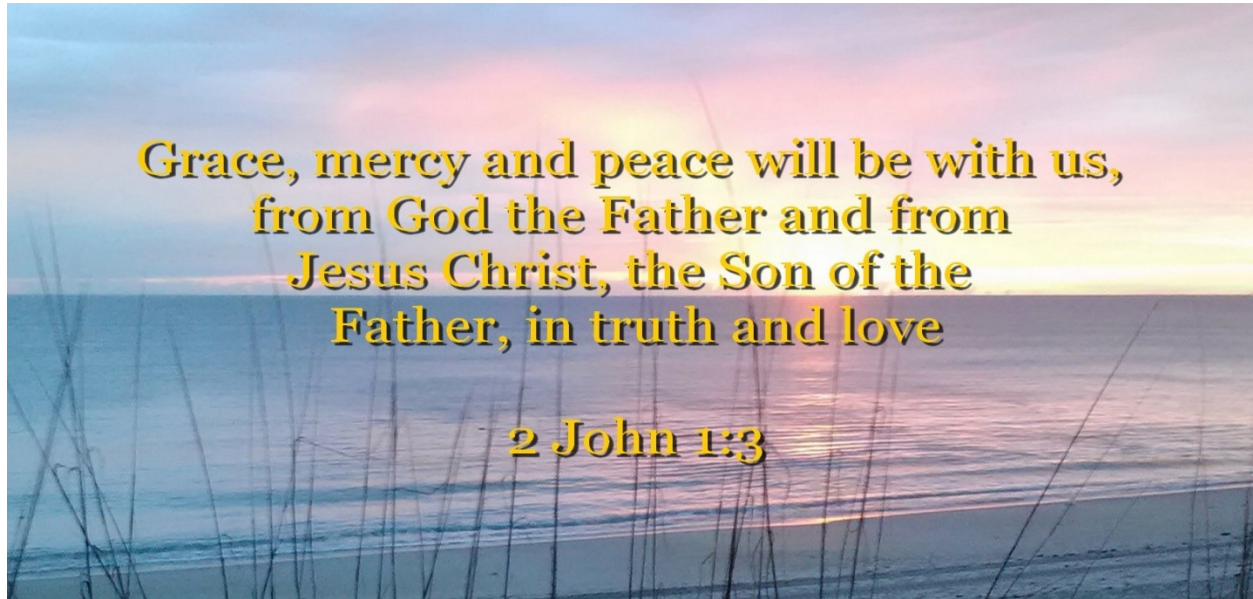
Application for Today

Today, we may live truthfully in the family of God by praising God for the truth that abides in us and will be with us forever. Will you live truthfully in the family of God today by worshiping God in spirit and in truth?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three

Grace Today



How did John greet the chosen lady and her children? He greeted them with grace, mercy and peace.

John gave a theological greeting to the chosen lady and her children. In contrast to how we greet each other today with a “Hi how are you?”, God chose grace, mercy and peace as a greeting. We should learn to greet one another with the words grace, mercy and peace.

John not only greeted the chosen lady and her children, but he also included others in that greeting, including himself. John used the term “us” to describe the people who will have grace, mercy and peace with them. John phrased it as true today and continuing off into the future, even eternity. We will all have grace, mercy and peace.

Grace, mercy and peace came into our life from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father. John said they came into our lives in truth and love. John repeats the theme of truth in all matters, particularly all spiritual matters. John loves to remind believers, all of us,

that we have grace, mercy and peace from both God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ because they love us and bless us with their presence in our lives.

Truth

1. **Grace**. John greeted the Christians with grace, meaning God gives us things freely that we do not deserve.

2. **Mercy**. God also greeted them with mercy, meaning that God withholds the punishment that we do deserve.

3. **Peace**. Peace comes into our lives from having been justified by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior.

4. **Us**. John considered himself one of the family of God and so used the term “us.”

5. **Father**. John described Jesus as Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father.

6. **Jesus**. Living truthfully in the family of God means that Jesus brings us grace, mercy and peace from Himself and from His Father.

7. **Truth**. We rejoice today because Jesus brings love and truth into our lives for all eternity.

Summary for Today

- **We live truthfully in the family of God by greeting one another with words of grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.**
- **We live truthfully in the family of God by thanking God that Jesus brought truth and love into our lives.**
- **We live together truthfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to live in the truth and love that Jesus brought into our lives.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live truthfully in the family of God by thanking God that we have grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Will you live truthfully in the family of God today by remembering that, no matter what else happens today, we live in truth and love from Jesus Christ?

HALLELUJAH !

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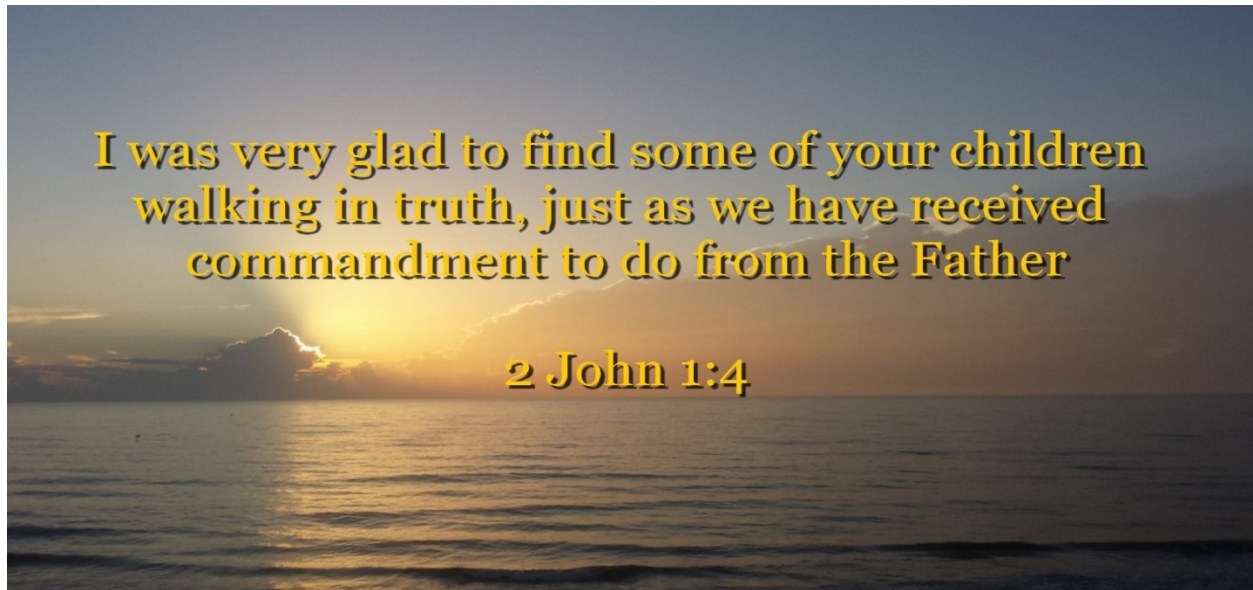
Glad News

John was very glad to find some of the children of the chosen lady walking in the truth. They were following the commandment from the Father. John then asked the lady that we should love one another. John then described love as walking according to the commandment of God. Just as the chosen lady had heard from the beginning, we should walk in the commandment of God. Loving one another and loving God in truth dominate the epistle.

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four

Glad Today



What made John happy? John was happy when he heard that some of the children of the chosen woman were walking in the truth.

The elder wrote to the chosen lady and her children. John apparently knew about the spiritual condition of the children of the chosen lady. He cared about them and rejoiced when he heard that they were walking in the truth.

John linked walking in the truth with the commandment received from God the Father to walk in the truth. In other words, the children really were doing what God commanded them to do. Walking in the truth was absolutely mandatory with God. He is truth and in Him there is no darkness at all. God loves to sanctify His children in the truth.

John also declared that the truth abides in us and will be with us forever. With that in mind, John linked walking in the truth to the truth abiding in us forever. John understood it was a choice people make about walking in the truth. Because saints can never lose their salvation, they may stop walking in the truth for a while. Paul described walking in the Holy

Spirit and bearing the fruit of the Spirit. John described walking in the truth as a spiritual command from God.

Walking

1. **I.** John wrote the first person, using the term “I.”
2. **Glad**. John let the chosen lady and her children know just how happy they made him by walking in the truth. We always need to let other people know how happy they make us by walking the truth.
3. **Find**. John indicated that he found the children walking in the truth, but he used the term “some.” By using the term “some”, he did not mean all the children.
4. **Children**. Some of the children of the chosen lady were walking in the truth and John rejoiced in that truth.
5. **Truth**. Walking in the truth should always bring joy to the believers finding them walking in the truth.
6. **Commandment**. Living truthfully in the family of God means that we fulfill the commandment of God to walk in the truth by actually walking in the truth.
7. **Father**. We rejoice today because walking in the truth fulfills the commandment of God our Father and causes other believers to rejoice as we walk in the truth.

Summary for Today

- **We live truthfully in the family of God by finding some children walking in the truth.**
- **We live truthfully in the family of God by following the command of God the Father to walk in the truth.**
- **We live together truthfully in the family of God by encouraging one another by letting them know that when they are walking in the truth, their walk makes us glad.**

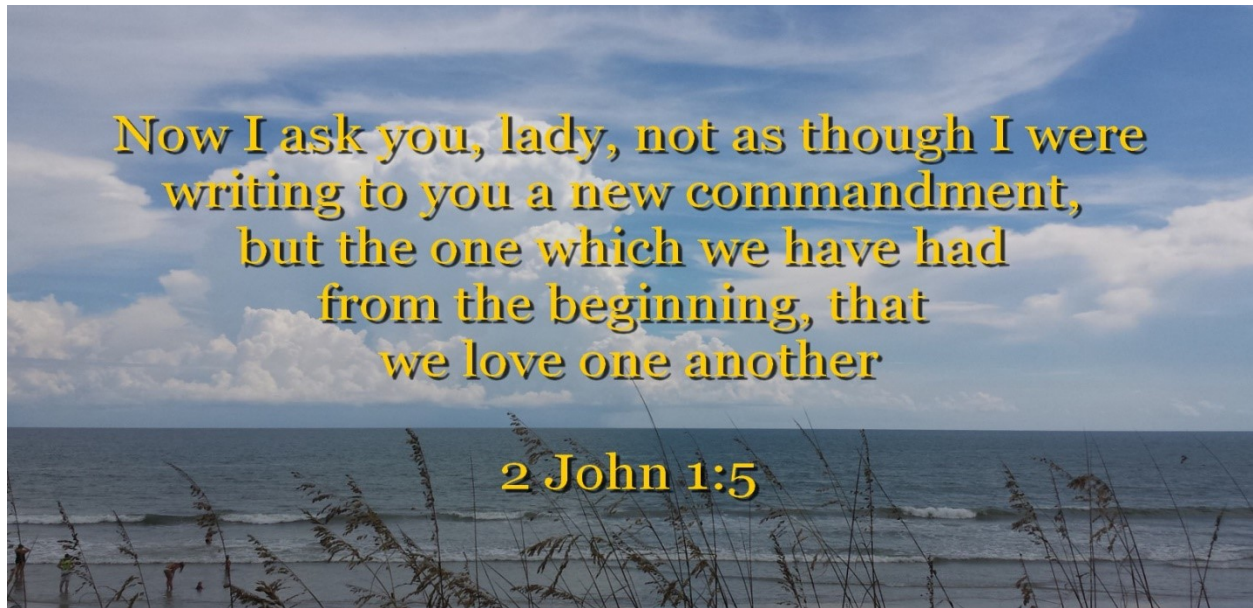
Application for Today

Today, we may live truthfully in the family of God by walking in the truth and obeying the commandment of God. Will you live truthfully in the family of God today by letting children walking in the truth know their walk makes you glad?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five

Ask Today



What did John ask the chosen lady? John asked the chosen lady that we love one another.

John made it plain that he was not writing to her a new commandment, but one that she had heard from the beginning. We love one another because Jesus commanded us to do that from the beginning. The world will know us by the love we have for one another. We must be excellent examples of His love day in and day out. We also need to love those who falter and bring shame upon the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ by restoring them in a spirit of gentleness and love.

John said a lot about the truth, but he also said a lot about love, because they go hand-in-hand. If you say you love God, but do not walk in the truth, you are deceiving yourself with lies about yourself. God said we all sin, but as we walk in the light, the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin so that we have fellowship with one another. John repeatedly emphasized the priority of love.

John was very fond of the chosen lady and her children. He delighted that they continued to walk in the truth. He also wanted to encourage them to continue their love for one another.

Love

1. **Now**. John used the word “now” to emphasize present action.
2. **Ask**. John asked the chosen lady a question, but in effect he was reminding her of the command of Jesus to love one another.
3. **New**. John was not giving her a new commandment, but reminding her of the commandment of God from the beginning.
4. **Commandment**. The commandment of God was we should love one another.
5. **Beginning**. From the beginning God emphasized that we should love one another.
6. **Love**. Living truthfully in the family of God means we should remind one another to love one another.
7. **Another**. We rejoice today because by the power of Jesus Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit, we love to love one another because God first loved us.

Summary for Today

- **We live truthfully in the family of God by remembering the command from the beginning to love one another.**
- **We live truthfully in the family of God by asking one another to love one another.**
- **We live together truthfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to love one another.**

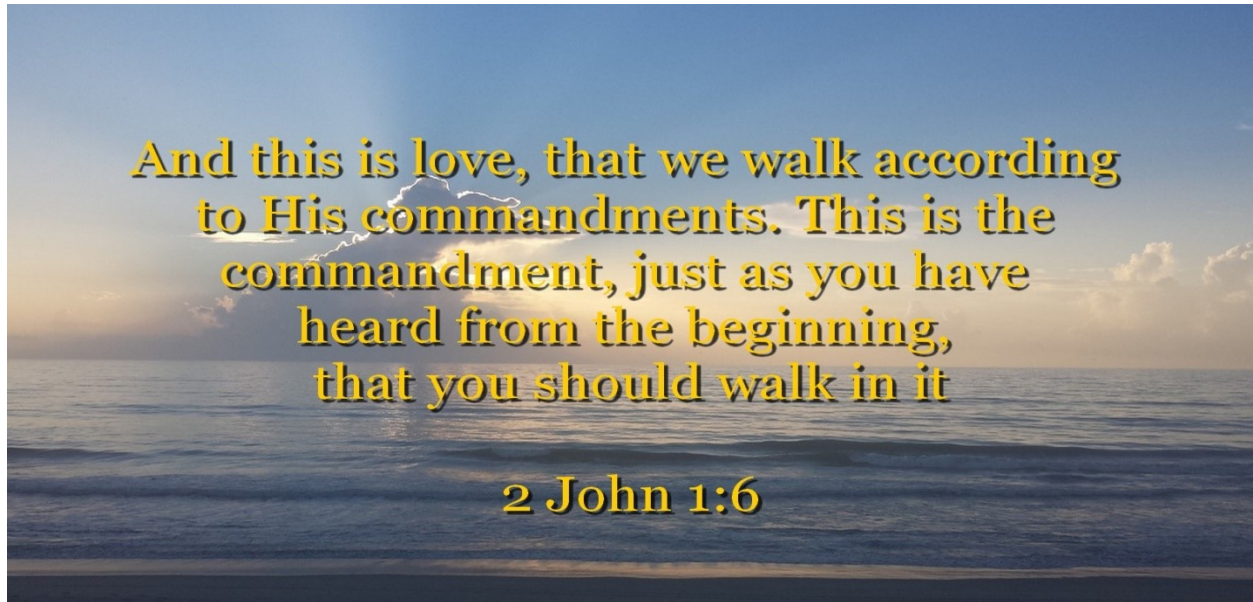
Application for Today

Today, we may live truthfully in the family of God by loving one another. Will you live truthfully in the family of God today by practicing the commandment from the beginning that we love one another?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Six

Commandments Today



What is true Christian love? True Christian love is to walk in the commandments of God the Father.

John emphasized that the chosen lady and her children should walk according to the commandment which they had from the beginning. That commandment is that we love one another. Therefore, John emphasized the priority of loving one another.

John then defined love. Love means that we walk according to the commandments of God the Father. If you love somebody, keep God's commandments regarding that person. The most loving thing you can do for anybody is to obey God's commandments. If you claim to love somebody by breaking God's commandment, then you do not love the person. For example, if you are having sex with somebody you are not married to, you may claim that you love that person, but immorality always means you are breaking God's commandments and so you do not love that person.

John provided a very clear-cut test about love. Love will always harmonize perfectly with God's commandments. If you follow God's commandments, then you will love people. If you hate people, then you know you are not following God's commandments which include loving your neighbor as yourself.

Walk

1. **Love**. God linked keeping His commandments with loving people.
2. **Walk**. We love God by walking according to His commandments.
3. **Commandments**. We cannot really claim to love God and not keep His commandments.
4. **Heard**. We have heard from the beginning that we must walk according to His commandments.
5. **Beginning**. From the beginning, God has always commanded us to keep His commandments
6. **Should**. Living truthfully in the family of God means God commanded us to love one another and we should walk in that commandment.
7. **Walk**. We rejoice today because God commanded us to walk in His commandments and empowers us to keep those commandments.

Summary for Today

- **We live truthfully in the family of God by remembering that love means we walk according to God's commandments.**
- **We live truthfully in the family of God by understanding that from the beginning God has commanded us to keep His commandments and walk in love.**
- **We live together truthfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to keep His commandments and walk in love with God and our neighbor.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live truthfully in the family of God by keeping the commandments of God so that we love God and love our neighbor. Will you live truthfully in the family of God today by keeping the commandments of God?

HALLELUJAH !

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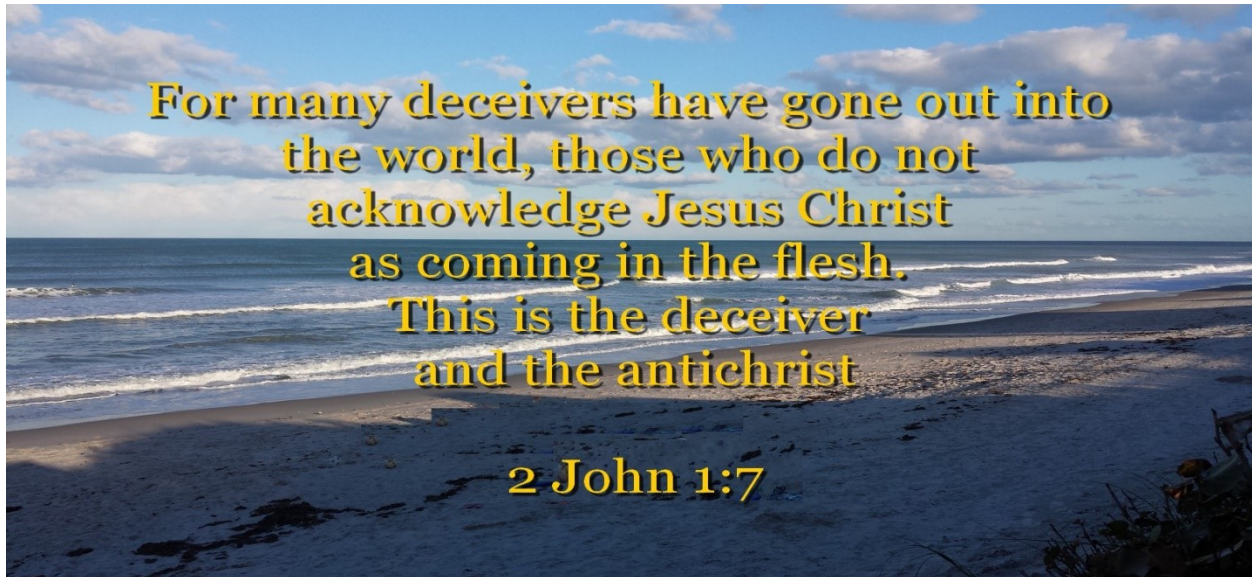
Many Deceivers

Having expressed his great love for the chosen lady and her children, John and then provided a serious warning about deceivers and the anti-Christ. Many deceivers have gone out into the world and they do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the anti-Christ. John urged his audience to watch themselves so that they would receive a full reward. John warned that anyone who goes too far and does not abide the teaching of Christ does not have God. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive them into your house and do not give them a greeting. Everyone who gives them a greeting participates in their evil deeds.

HALLELUJAH !

Day Seven

Deceivers Today



What did John warn believers about the antichrist? John warned that many deceivers have gone out into the world.

The deceivers have several identifying factors. Many deceivers have gone out into the world, not just one. Those deceivers do not acknowledge that Jesus Christ came in the flesh. They often teach that the flesh is evil and so Jesus could not have taken flesh. In fact, Jesus was born of a woman and had human flesh just like we have, except for sin.

The deceiver and the antichrist deny that Jesus has come in the flesh. Therefore, in the Old Testament, Jesus had not yet appeared in the flesh for the purpose of dying on the cross. Jesus lived among men, facing all the same temptations as we have. Because He has been tempted as we are, He has sympathy for our weaknesses. The deceivers intend to disturb our faith in the Christ of Scriptures. They not only deny Jesus as coming in the flesh, but they also deny all the Scriptures that said Jesus would be born of a virgin and live among men and die on a cross for us.

The deceiver and antichrist attack the basic doctrines of the Christian faith. They also fail to acknowledge that Jesus came in the flesh, a critical element of true redemption by shedding His blood for us.

Antichrist

1. **Many**. John warned that many deceivers had gone out into the world.

2. **Deceivers**. Deceivers were people who tried to lead people away from Jesus Christ as Savior.

3. **World**. The deceivers had gone out into the world spreading their lies.

4. **Acknowledge**. They did not acknowledge Jesus as coming in the flesh.

5. **Coming**. Jesus took flesh and dwelt among men, living as a man while still being God.

6. **Flesh**. Living truthfully in the family of God means Jesus had real flesh just like we do with all that goes with it, except sin.

7. **Antichrist**. We rejoice today because our faith overcomes the antichrist and we believe that Jesus as God came in the flesh.

Summary for Today

- **We live truthfully in the family of God by remembering that many deceivers have gone out into the world.**
- **We live truthfully in the family of God by understanding that antichrist denies that Jesus came in the flesh.**
- **We live together truthfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to be alert because many deceivers have gone out into the world and antichrist denies that Jesus came in the flesh.**

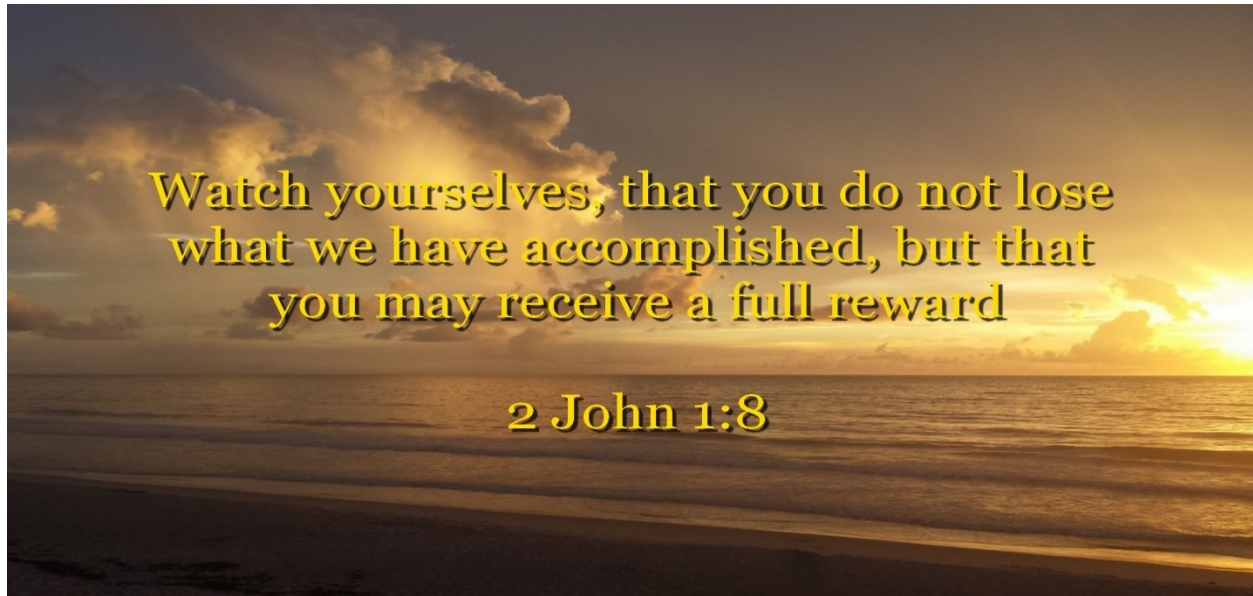
Application for Today

Today, we may live truthfully in the family of God by staying alert so that we understand many deceivers have gone out into the world who deny that Jesus came in the flesh. Will you live truthfully in the family of God today by resisting antichrist with your faith firmly abiding in Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Eight

Watch Today



What did John warn the chosen lady to watch out for? John wanted the chosen lady not lose what they had accomplished together.

The anti-Christ has gone out to the world. The deceiver and the anti-Christ love to destroy what believers who work together accomplish. John and the chosen lady and her children have been abiding in the truth. John loved to hear those reports about the chosen lady and her children.

Because evil forces work constantly to destroy the work of Christ among believers, John warned the chosen lady and her children to watch out against the deceivers and the anti-Christ. John did not want them to lose what they had accomplished together.

Saints earn indestructible rewards by doing the will of God and helping other saints in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Those rewards can never be lost once earned on earth, though they will be tested with fire at the judgment seat of Christ. John took the long view of eternal rewards, but he also understood the temporal need for saints alive on earth to

safeguard what they have already accomplished together among the brethren. As they stand together alert and aware of the schemes of the deceiver and the anti-Christ, they will not lose their reward.

Receive

1. **Watch**. John warned the chosen lady and her children to watch themselves.

2. **You**. He did not want them to lose what we have accomplished.

3. **Not**. The concept was of not losing something which John had built with those fellow saints.

4. **Lose**. John loved those saints and did not want them to lose what their joint effort had built.

5. **We**. John said that “we” have accomplished, referring to their mutual work together.

6. **Accomplished**. Living truthfully in the family of God means John did not want what “we” had accomplished together to be lost in any way.

7. **Reward**. We rejoice today because rewards for faithful service are always indestructible, but destroying the work already accomplished means that the workers will no longer enjoy the fruit of their prior efforts.

Summary for Today

- **We live truthfully in the family of God by striving together to accomplish God's will.**
- **We live truthfully in the family of God by reminding the people we have worked with in the past to remain alert.**
- **We live together truthfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remain alert so that we do not lose what we have accomplished with other saints.**

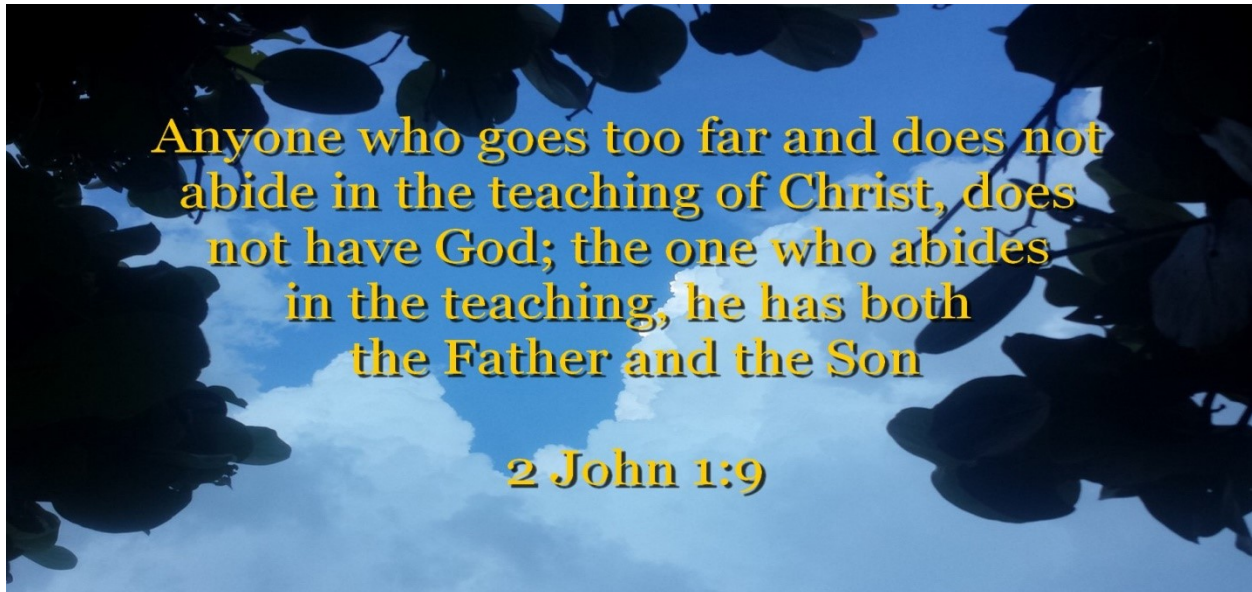
Application for Today

Today, we may live truthfully in the family of God by working with other saints to accomplish great things for God. Will you live truthfully in the family of God today by reminding saints to watch carefully that they do not lose what we have accomplished with them?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Nine

Teaching Today



What happens if you do not abide in the teaching of Christ? You do not have God.

Jesus said that if anyone continues in His word, then you will truly be learners of Jesus. He also said that you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free. John heard Jesus say those words as an eyewitness.

John also received revelation from God to write his epistles. He knew the teaching of Christ and its value for spiritual life. Without the teachings of Christ, there would be no eternal life. Jesus is the only Savior and if you reject Him and His teachings, then you have no salvation.

John also emphasized that you cannot know the Father except through Jesus the Son. Likewise, only the Father can reveal Jesus to you. Therefore, when you abide in the teachings of Jesus, you have both the Father and the Son.

Abides

1. **Anyone**. How does teaching affect life? Anyone abiding in the teaching of Christ has both the Father and the Son.

2. **Goes**. In contrast, anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ does not have God.

3. **Abide**. John stressed the need to abide in the teaching of Christ

4. **Teaching**. The teaching of Christ forms the bedrock of Christianity.

5. **God**. Those who do not abide in the teaching of Christ do not have God.

6. **Father**. Living truthfully in the family of God means anyone who abides in the teaching of Christ has both the Father and the Son.

7. **Son**. We rejoice today because we abide in the teaching of Christ and so enjoy fellowship with both the Father and the Son.

Summary for Today

- **We live truthfully in the family of God by abiding in the teaching of Christ.**
- **We live truthfully in the family of God by remembering that those who go too far and do not abide in the teaching of Christ and do not have God.**
- **We live together truthfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to abide in the teaching of Christ.**

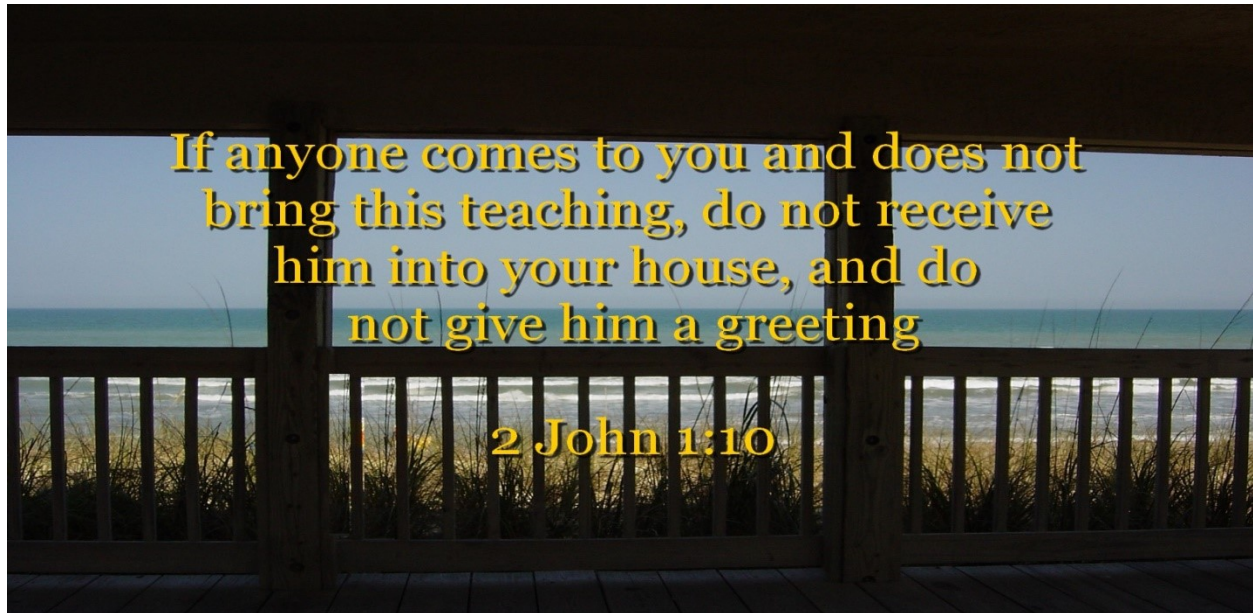
Application for Today

Today, we may live truthfully in the family of God by abiding in the teachings of Christ. Will you live truthfully in the family of God today by enjoying fellowship with both God the Father and God the Son by abiding in the teaching of Christ?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Ten

Teaching Today



Did Jesus say never greet some people and never let those people into your house? Jesus gave very specific commandments regarding false teachers.

Jesus warned us that if anyone comes to does not bring this teaching, do not receive that person into your house and do not give that person a greeting. If you give that person a greeting, then you participate and that person's evil deeds.

Jesus was talking about the deceiver and the antichrist coming into the world. Some people, operating under the influence of the deceiver and anti-Christ, go too far and do not abide in the teaching of Christ. In fact, some of those people will come to you, not bringing the teaching of Christ. When false teachers approach, Jesus commands you not to receive them into your house. Furthermore, Jesus prohibits you from greeting them.

Most people today gladly received false teachers into their house. In fact, many people have children who do not bring the teaching of Christ,

but teach false things to others which contradict the Scriptures. Christians today remain oblivious to the commands of Christ not to open your door to such people and do not let them live under your roof. In fact, merely greeting them causes you to participate in their evil.

Greeting

1. **Anyone**. John warned Christians against anyone coming to them with false teaching.

2. **Comes**. When the false teacher comes to you, you must know how to respond to the false teacher.

3. **Bringing**. The false teacher comes, bringing the false teaching from anti-Christ.

4. **Teaching**. False teaching poses a profound danger to all the people exposed to it.

5. **Receive**. We do not receive people into our houses bringing false teaching because God commanded us to keep our door closed to them.

6. **Give**. Living truthfully in the family of God means do not give false teachers a greeting.

7. **Greeting**. We rejoice today because we know if we greet false teachers, then we participate in their evil by greeting them.

Summary for Today

- **We live truthfully in the family of God by not receiving false teachers into our houses.**
- **We live truthfully in the family of God by not greeting false teachers.**
- **We live together truthfully in the family of God by encouraging one another not to receive false teachers into our houses and to avoid greeting them.**

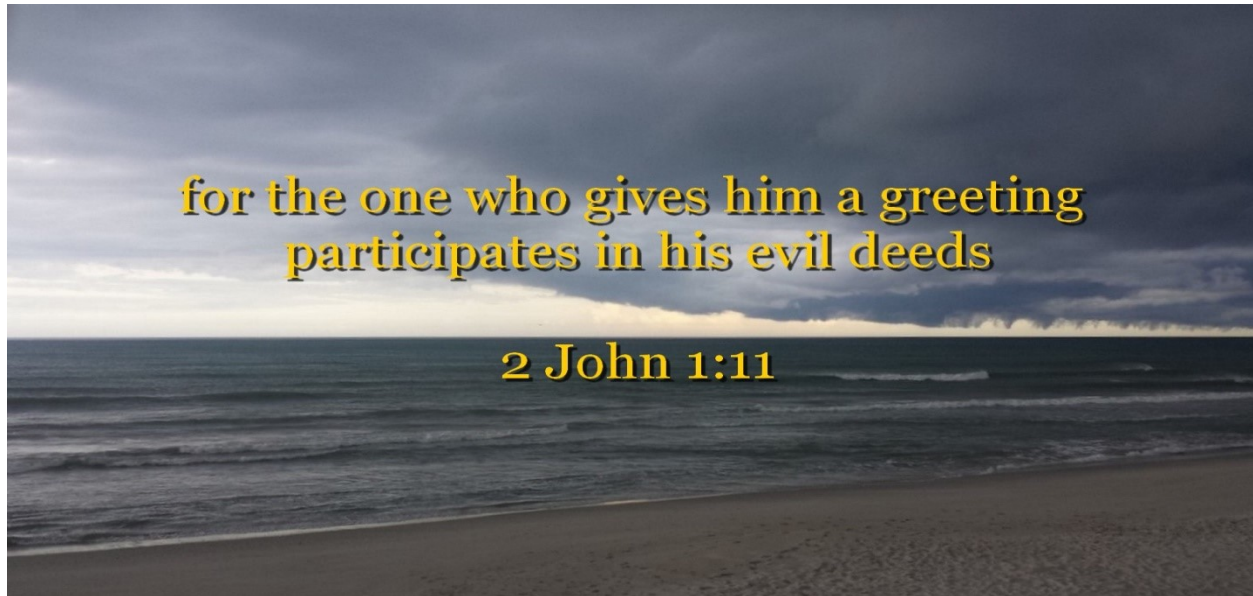
Application for Today

Today, we may live truthfully in the family of God by thanking God that John warned us against letting false teachers into our houses. Will you live truthfully in the family of God today by never greeting false teachers?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Eleven

Participates Today



What happens if you greet false teachers? The one who gives a greeting to a person bringing false teaching to you participates in his evil.

John warned that if anyone comes who does not bring the teaching of the apostles, do not receive him into your house and do not give him a greeting. Most people today have never heard of such a practice, including people who have gone to church for many years. They have never even considered that you cannot allow a person bringing to you teaching contrary to the apostles into your house. John also warned against giving him a greeting.

You might wonder about Jesus eating with the Pharisees. He went to their houses and ate dinner with a large group of Pharisees and other people who opposed Jesus and His teachings delivered to the apostles. How can we reconcile the practice of Jesus being the friend of sinners who ate with them with John's warning not to let people bringing false teaching contrary to the apostles' teaching and to your home? The key distinction is that going to their home for the purpose of sharing the Gospel of the Lord

Jesus Christ. Jesus did not allow them to come into His home to share their false teaching with His entire family. If they are not permitted in your home, then you should not greet them either. If you do greet them, you participate in their evil.

Evil

1. **One**. John warned that the one who greets a person bringing false teaching into your home shares in their evil.

2. **Gives**. Anyone who gives the false teacher a greeting participates in their evil.

3. **Greeting**. Greetings should be reserved for other believers and people who do not come to you pushing their false teaching upon you and your house.

4. **Participates**. John explicitly stated that if you greet those people who are not allowed in your house, then you share in their evil.

5. **His**. John intended that believers distinguish themselves in many ways from the people pushing their evil teachings.

6. **Evil**. Living truthfully in the family of God means believers identify evil teaching and people pushing it upon others and so never greet those people.

7. **Deeds**. We rejoice today because God never intended us to participate in the evil deeds of false teachers, but to expose them and stay away from those people spreading their evil teaching opposed to the apostles' doctrine.

Summary for Today

- **We live truthfully in the family of God by remembering that we must never greet those who push false doctrine on others and never allow them into our homes.**
- **We live truthfully in the family of God by keeping our distance from people trying to come into our homes to push false doctrine.**
- **We live together truthfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to avoid greeting false teachers pushing their false doctrine towards your home and your loved ones.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live truthfully in the family of God by taking care not to greet the false teachers who push their false doctrines into the homes of believers. Will you live truthfully in the family of God today by not greeting false teachers so that you do not participate in their evil deeds?

HALLELUJAH !

5

Closing Words

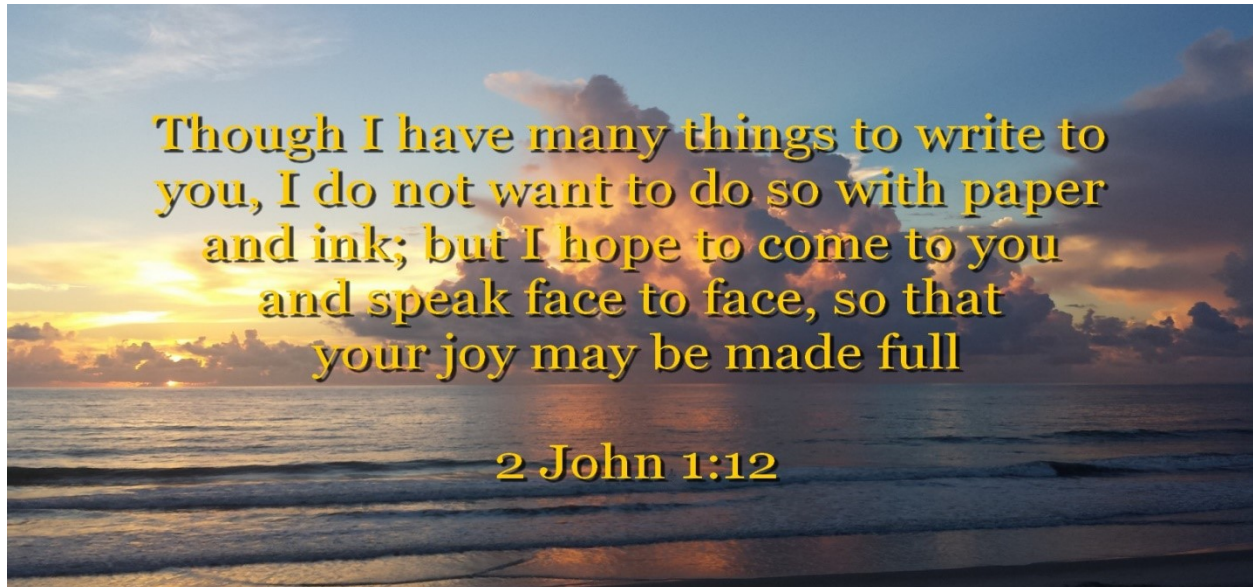
John closed by indicating he had many things to write to the chosen lady and her children, but he did not want to do so with paper and ink. He hoped to come to them and speak to them face-to-face, so that their joy may be made full.

John also indicated that the children of the chosen lady's sister gave their greetings also.

HALLELUJAH !

Day Twelve

Paper and Ink Today



How is John going to increase the joy of the chosen lady and her children? By paying them a face-to-face visit.

John had deep love for the chosen lady and her children. He was very concerned about false teachers coming in among them and pushing false doctrine. He had just warned them not to invite those people into their houses and not to give them a greeting, or else they would participate in their evil deeds.

John, however, was very glad to find some of the children of the chosen lady walking in the truth. They were walking in the command from the Father. John reemphasized the priority of love and tied love to walking in the Commandments of God. When we walk in the Commandments of God, then we truly love one another.

As John prepared to close his letter, he let the chosen lady and her children know that he had many things to say to them. Instead of writing them all down with paper and ink, he preferred to come to them and see

them face-to-face. John knew that his coming to them would make their joy full. John wanted everybody to have more joy in life as they followed Jesus Christ.

Face-to-Face

1. **Though**. John had many things to write, though he did not want to put them all down on paper.

2. **I**. John indicated he wanted to deliver the message in person.

3. **Many**. He said that he had many things to tell the chosen lady and her children.

4. **Write**. He said he could write them down with pen and ink.

5. **Come**. He preferred instead to come and visit her.

6. **Face**. Living truthfully in the family of God means John wanted to have a face-to-face meeting with the chosen lady and her children.

7. **Joy**. We rejoice today because John knew that his presence would make full the joy of the chosen lady and her children.

Summary for Today

- **We live truthfully in the family of God by taking time to visit people face-to-face.**
- **We live truthfully in the family of God by remembering that our presence makes the joy of some people full.**
- **We live together truthfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to spend time together face-to-face.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live truthfully in the family of God by taking time to visit people so that we see them face-to-face. Will you live truthfully in the family of God today by making the joy of someone full by spending some face time with them?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Thirteen

Children Today



Who did John mention in closing? John mentioned the children of the sister of the chosen lady.

John wrote this epistle to the chosen lady and her children. John was very concerned about those children still walking in the truth and not being deceived or led astray by the anti-Christ's who have come. John even warned that no one should give false teachers a greeting or invite them into your house.

John also expressed his great happiness that he heard that the children were walking in the light. John reminded the chosen lady and her children to continue walking in the light and to love one another. John stressed that he was not giving them a new commandment, but reminding them of the old commandment, that we love one another.

John expressed his love for the chosen lady and her children by passing along a greeting from the children of the chosen lady's sister. John passed on greetings as a mutual friend, but also because he knew that the greetings would encourage the chosen lady and her children.

Sister

1. **Children**. John wrote to the chosen lady and her children. He then closed his epistle with a greeting from the children of the chosen lady's sister.

2. **Of**. John passed on the greetings from the children to the chosen lady.

3. **Your**. John told the chosen lady that the children greet you, indicating they too had a spiritual interest in the things of Jesus Christ.

4. **Chosen**. John described the chosen lady as elected by God.

5. **Sister**. The chosen lady apparently had a sister with children and they all longed to greet the chosen lady.

6. **Greet**. Living truthfully in the family of God means we pass on greetings to one another in the family of God to encourage one another to live for Jesus Christ.

7. **You**. We rejoice today because we receive greetings from all kinds of people in all kind of places, but the chosen lady received greetings from John and from the children of the chosen lady's sister joined together to say we greet you.

Summary for Today

- **We live truthfully in the family of God by greeting one another.**
- **We live truthfully in the family of God by passing greetings on to other believers delivered through a mutual friend.**
- **We live together truthfully in the family of God by encouraging one another with careful greetings and timely words which edify in a moment of need.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live truthfully in the family of God by passing along greetings from loved ones to loved ones. Will you live truthfully in the family of God today by greeting someone today who needs to feel your love from Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

6

Conclusion

Living truthfully in the family of God means that we appreciate the love that John had for the chosen lady and her children. He rejoiced that he heard that some of them were walking in the truth. Because he loved them, he urged them to continue in the commandment from the beginning which is to walk in love.

John knew that many deceivers had gone out into the world and both the deceivers and the anti-Christ do not confess that Jesus Christ came in the flesh. Saints should never allow people being false teaching into their homes and never offer those false teachers a greeting. If they offer them a greeting, they participate in their evil.

John concluded his epistle to the chosen lady and her children by indicating he had many things to write, but hoped to see them in face-to-face soon. John concluded with greetings from the children of the chosen lady's sister.

HALLELUJAH !