

Key Terms in 2 John

“Truth” (5x) is the most important term in this short letter, as John contrasts truth with “deceivers” who do not abide in the teachings of Christ (vv. 7-10). But not to be overlooked is the word “love” (4x). “Truth” and “love” are paired twice (vv. 1 & 3). Furthermore, John uses the word “commandment” to speak of both “truth” (v. 4) and “love” (v. 5). Lastly, John says, “And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments” (v. 6). In other words, because we love God we obey the truth.

The Second Letter of **JOHN**

Walk According to His Commandments

- 1 The elder to the chosen lady and her children, whom I love in truth; and not only I, but also all who know the truth,
- 2 for the sake of the truth which abides in us and will be with us forever:
- 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 was very glad to find some of your children walking in truth, just as we have received commandment to do from the Father.
- 5 Now I ask you, lady, not as though I were writing to you a new commandment, but the one which we have had from the beginning, that we love one another.
- 6 And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it.
- 7 For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist.
- 8 Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward.
- 9 Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son.
- 10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting;
- 11 for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds.
- 12 Though I have many things to write to you, I do not want to do so with paper and ink; but I hope to come to you and speak face to face, so that your joy may be made full.
- 13 The children of your chosen sister greet you.