

# Book of 2John

## Synopsis



## Introduction

Book No	63
Name	2John
Written By	John
Testament	New
Category	Epistles
Date Written	Approx. 90 A.D
Place Written	Ephesus
Audience	To the chosen lady and her children
Purpose	To emphasize the basics of following Christ—truth and love—and to warn against false teachers
History Covered	NA
Chapters	1
Verses	13
Key Verse	And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it. (1:6)
Key People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ John</li> <li>❖ The chosen lady</li> </ul>
Key Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Ephesus</li> </ul>

## Purpose of the Book

Christ is the antithesis of society's prevailing values, that is, falsehood and self-centeredness—for he is truth and love in person. Therefore, all who claim loyalty to him must be committed to these ideals—following the truth and living the truth, reflecting love and acting with love toward one another.

The apostle John had seen Truth and Love firsthand—he had been with Jesus. So affected was this disciple that all of his writings, from the Gospel to the book of Revelation, are filled with this theme: Truth and love are vital to the Christian and are inseparable in the Christian life. Second John, his brief letter to a dear friend, is no different. John says to live in the truth and obey God (1:4), watch out for deceivers (1:7), and love God and each other (1:6).

John's message is timeless in that seductive teachings continue to threaten the doctrinal stability of the church. The epistle reminds us to receive Jesus as *the* Son of God, not as *a* son of God or as *a* powerful god. John warns about those who advance beyond the doctrine of Christ, accepting new teachings and leaving apostolic doctrine behind (v. 9). To receive such people is to be identified with their evil (v. 11) and to run the risk of losing the faith (v. 8).

Second John will take just a few minutes to read, but its message should last a lifetime. As you reflect on these few paragraphs penned by the wise and aged follower of Christ, recommit yourself to being a person of truth, of love, and of obedience.

## Overview

- ❖ 63<sup>rd</sup> book of the BIBLE, 24<sup>th</sup> in the New Testament, 19<sup>th</sup> of the 21 epistles and 5<sup>th</sup> of the 7 epistles written by various authors
- ❖ John:
  - Was one of the original 12 apostles.
  - Was one of the inner circle of the apostles (Peter, James, & John).
  - Was the “disciple whom Jesus loved.” John 13:23
  - Was one of the first two disciples called by Jesus.
  - Was one of the “pillars” of the church at Jerusalem. Galatians 2:9
  - Near the end of his life, John lived in Ephesus.
- ❖ Near the end of the 1st century, John was exiled to the island of Patmos.
- ❖ John authored five books of the New Testament.

- John
  - 1 John
  - 2 John
  - 3 John
  - Revelation
- ❖ Only Paul authored more New Testament books than John.
  - ❖ One of two one chapter books authored by John
    - 2 John
    - 3 John
  - ❖ One of five one chapter books in the Bible:
    - Obadiah
    - Philemon
    - 2 John
    - 3 John
    - Jude
  - ❖ In 2 John, John writes about:
    - Truth and love.
    - Obedience
    - Antichrist.
    - Warnings against false teachers.
    - Abiding in God's commandments

### Hebrew Names of GOD used in 2John

NA

### Revelation of JESUS CHRIST

John presents both the deity of Christ (v. 3) and His humanity (v. 7). Anyone who denies the fundamental truth concerning the divine-human Person of Christ does not have God (v. 9). John views fellowship as a distinctive feature of the Christian life, but he leaves no doubt that biblical fellowship is impossible where the apostolic doctrine of the Person and work of Christ is denied or compromised.

## Work of THE HOLY SPIRIT

Although the epistle does not specifically mention the Holy Spirit, His ministry is evident, particularly in bearing witness to the truth concerning the Person of Christ. The Spirit enables the true believer to discern false teachings and to “abide in the doctrine of Christ.”

## Mega Themes of 2John

### TRUTH

Following God’s Word, the Bible, is essential to Christian living because God is truth. Christ’s true followers consistently obey his truth.

To be loyal to Christ’s teaching, we must seek to know the Bible, but we may never twist its message to our own needs or purposes or encourage others who misuse it.

### LOVE

Christ’s command is for Christians to love one another. This is the basic ingredient of true Christianity.

To obey Christ fully, we must believe his command to love others. Helping, giving, and meeting needs put love into practice.

### FALSE LEADERS

We must be wary of religious leaders who are not true to Christ’s teaching. We should not give them a platform to spread false teaching.

Don’t encourage those who are opposed to Christ. Politely remove yourself from association with false leaders. Be aware of what is being taught in your church.

## Life Lessons in 2John

Truth	Lesson
<p><b>Growing in Godliness</b></p> <p>If we know truth, it should affect the way we live. If we are truly loved, then that love should affect the way we love others. Love others as Jesus has loved you. Apply the truth of</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Walk in the truth of God’s Word. To honestly say that we know truth, we must be living it. This is called godly living.</li> <li>❖ Love one another, and do not tire of reminding others of this great commandment.</li> </ul>

<p>God's Word to your life so that you will grow in godliness.</p>	
<p><b>Cultivating Dynamic Devotion</b></p> <p>The focus of your devotion is Jesus Christ who became fully human in order to bring salvation through His death and resurrection. The Book of 2 John tells us that the truth, which we now have in God's Word, will stay in us forever.</p>	<p>❖ Devote yourself to the truth, knowing that it will stay with you forever. Understand that this truth is found in the Bible.</p>
<p><b>Pursuing Holiness</b></p> <p>We are to pursue holiness in all aspects of life, including doctrinal purity. The warning in 2 John can be applied to our churches today. We are to defend and maintain the pure gospel of Jesus Christ. Be careful not to welcome or allow false teachers into the church. Pastors, be watchful over who you allow to feed your sheep.</p>	<p>❖ Be sure to keep teaching allowed in the church pure. Do not allow anyone who does not hold to the biblical doctrine of Christ to teach or preach in the church. Pastors, do not allow false teachers into your pulpits. Do not extend hospitality to those who would try to lead God's people astray.</p>
<p><b>The Walk of Faith</b></p> <p>Our faith must be firmly rooted and grounded in the Word of God. Today, as when this letter was written, there are many who deny that Jesus was fully human and fully God. He alone is Lord and Savior, and there is salvation in no one else. Embrace the</p>	<p>❖ Do not be swayed by false teaching that contradicts the Bible or claims to have some special insight. Understand that when you leave the Bible for any other doctrine, you have left God, too. Hold tightly to the truth about Jesus Christ, so that you will receive your full reward from the Lord.</p>

gospel fully so that you will receive the reward of eternal life.	
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### Praise Points in 2John

- ❖ The truth of God that “lives in us” so that we can “live in truth and love” (1:2-3)
- ❖ Grace, mercy, and peace, which come from the Father and from Jesus Christ, his Son (1:3)
- ❖ The reward that we will receive for our diligence in service and in following the teachings of Christ (1:8-9)
- ❖ The great privilege of “fellowship with both the Father and the Son” (1:9).

### Worship Insights in 2John

- ❖ What we teach in worship must reflect the true teaching of Christ (1:7-9).
- ❖ Churches that teach the truth will always affirm the deity of Christ (1:10-11).

### An Outline of 2John

#### I. Christians in the World: 2Jn 1:1:1-13

**A.** The Elect Lady: 2Jn 1:1:1-3

**B.** Tough Love: 2Jn 1:1:4-13