

Keep Guard

2 John

One of the most neglected books in the New Testament

Perhaps due to size and location?
245 Greek words
Big things come in small packages

Themes in the letter

True love, loves the truth.

True love has to love the truth

Read 2 John 1-6

The Elder,

- (AGE) (The classic, tried and true – endured the test of time.)
- John 21 what is that to you, you follow Me.

John was arrested in Ephesus and faced martyrdom when his enemies threw him in a huge basin of boiling oil. However, according to the tradition, John was miraculously delivered from death. The authorities then sentenced John to slave labor in the mines of Patmos. On this island in the southern part of the Aegean Sea, John had a vision of Jesus Christ and wrote the prophetic book of Revelation. The apostle John was later freed, possibly due to old age, and he returned to what is now Turkey. He died as an old man sometime after AD 98.

- **Elder: Age but also position,**

The last living person/Apostle to have seen & walk with and learned from Jesus.

John is the writer, who is the reader?

1 John was to the church as a whole... this is directed to the stewardship of not a church but a home, and perhaps a home fellowship.

Elect: Reference to being a child of God, also, *choice select, the best of it's kind.*

- She had a huge impact on the Kingdom.
- Whomever this lady was, people knew her and knew Christ because of her.
- Most likely hosted some kind of church or fellowship in her home.
- Was incredibly hospitable and welcoming

NOTE: Home fellowships can also be hospitals for the hurt.

NOTE: Home fellowships can be hotbeds for wild ideas.

Something eternal had taken place **in her heart** and **through her home**.

Does your home exude eternal love & truth? (ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE)

Keep going!!!

Truth 4x (REALITY)

I rejoice greatly that I have found some of your children walking in truth, as we received commandment from the Father.

Remember Psalm 1 last week... walking was to behave and live according to the council (advice) of someone. NOT co-workers or classmates BUT Christ. And here John is rejoicing... the little birds have left the nest and are flying fast and strong though life!

3 John 1:4 I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

I rejoice:

To be glad, to be well or thrive.

To experience joy and gladness in a high degree; to be exhilarated

Not so much excitement but still, an inward stirring or infusion of strength and renewal.

(4) As we have received from the Father...

What do you know of Scripture? DO THAT!

Do not be deceived, but be doers of the Word and NOT hearers only

Keep Grounded!!! (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. 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.

A bit of a serious or at least sobering tone to his letter.

I PLEAD with you... to be earnest and sincere.

“Modern religion Focuses upon filling churches with people. The true Gospel emphasizes filling people with God.” – Tozer

Love has a backbone

Hebrews 10:23-24 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,

Proverb 25:25 As cold water to a weary soul, so is good news from a far country.

Some people are good at getting others all riled up about things that are carnal at their core rather than kingdom focused in their foundation.

What are you so worked up over? (I don't know)

Riots that are coming to a town near you – Democratic states and cities.

Riot in Ephesus **Gaius & Aristarchus**, Paul's traveling companions (shouting?)

Throw logs on the right fire

Keep Going
Keep Standing

Keep Guard (7-11)

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*. Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward. Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrines of Christ has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.

Areopagus – place of debate and spreading ideas from all around the world. The church is a place to spread all the ideas, not from around the world but from our Father above.

Primary and Secondary Threats: The reality and divinity of Christ

Your mind being set on HIM!

2 Timothy 4:3-4 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

- 8-18 months you switch churches? CAREFUL!!!

An antichrist and a **deceiver**

Deceiver: imposter, misleader, corruptor

Do not forget that Satan presents himself to be an angel of light. (2 Corinthians 2)

(10) If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.

Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward. Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrines of Christ has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.

Look to yourselves

To turn your eyes inward... look in the mirror.

What did I accomplish today?

Did I have a similar affect as John and The elect lady, that people were built up or encouraged?

Don't lose what you have worked to build (How many people finish strong?)

I want a FULL reward... not half.

This is for you their identification not so much their condemnation. (Light ON)

1 Corinthians 10:12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.

“... if you lie down with dogs you will get up with fleas.” – Charles Spurgeon

PURE MILK OF THE WORD!

1 Peter 2:2 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,

Contend only once or at the most twice

Titus 3:9-11 But avoid foolish disputes, genealogies, contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and useless. Reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition, knowing that such a person is warped and sinning, being self-condemned.

Titus 1:10-11 For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain.

Paul said, there is a crown laid up for me in heaven.

- I ran my race... are you running your race?
- I fought my fight... are you fighting your fight?

SEE YOU SOON!

Having many things to write to you, I did not wish to do so with paper and ink; but I hope to come to you and speak face to face, that our joy may be full. The children of your elect sister greet you. Amen.