



Go for God!

## The Second Epistle of JOHN

### “Truth & Love!”

- I) The HEART of God’s Truth & Love! (v1-3)  
II) The LIFE of God’s Truth & Love! (v4-6)  
III) The MIND of God’s Truth & Love! (v7-11)  
IV) The SOUL of God’s Truth & Love! (v12-13)

#### I) The HEART of God’s Truth & Love! (v1-3)

- How long will truth & love be with us? Forever!

~ What three gifts have God the Father & the Son bestowed to every believer?

- Grace- God’s Riches At Christ Expense!

- Mercy- God’s unmerited favor! - Lamentations 3:22–23 says,

*“Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his mercies never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.”*

- Peace- God’s peace!- Jesus said in John 14:27 - *Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*

John 16:33 - *These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.*

#### II) The LIFE of God’s Truth & Love! (v4-6)

- How do we walk in truth? - Turn to Ephesians Ch. 5 & discover each step of *truth & love*:

Step #1- “Walk in Love”

Step #2- “Walk as a child of light”

Step #3- “Walk carefully or wisely”

Step #4- “Be filled with the Spirit”

Step #5- “Be happy honeymooners”

#### III) The MIND of God’s Truth & Love! (v7-11)

- Who is a deceiver & antichrist?

They will not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh! One commentator writes, “In John’s day, as the heresy of Gnosticism was becoming prevalent; Gnosticism taught that Jesus only *appeared* to have a human body but was not actually a flesh-and-blood person.

**The word *antichrist* means “against Christ. People who say that Jesus is not from God are controlled by the spirit of the antichrist. Satan opposes Christ, and he desires to deceive people into a false view of who Jesus is. The spirit of the antichrist teaches against Christ. To twist the truth about Jesus Christ is to pervert the gospel. Satan works to spread lies about Christ and keep people in the dark!”**

**- What is this full reward? - 1 Corinthians 3:9-15 -** *For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you are God’s building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one’s work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one’s work, of what sort it is. If anyone’s work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone’s work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.*

**~ Rewards are called crowns in the New Testament:**

**- The Crown of Life-** James 1:12- *Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.*

**- The Crown Imperishable-** 1 Corinthians 9:24-27- *Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.*

**- The Crown of Rejoicing-** 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20- *For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? For you are our glory and joy.*

**- The Crown of Righteousness-** 2 Timothy 4:5-8- *But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.*

- *The Crown of Glory*- 1 Peter 5:2-4- *Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.*

~ What is the doctrine of Christ?

- The truth of Scripture! (Article: Is the Bible Truly God's Word?)

- The truth of lifestyle! - The word *repentance* in the Bible literally means "the act of changing one's mind." True biblical repentance goes beyond remorse, regret, or feeling bad about one's sin. It involves more than merely turning away from sin. *Eerdmans Bible Dictionary* includes this definition of *repentance*: "In its fullest sense it is a term for a complete change of orientation involving a judgment upon the past and a deliberate redirection for the future."

1) True repentance involves a sense of awareness of one's own guilt, sinfulness, and helplessness (Psalm 51:4–10; 109:21–22).

2) True repentance apprehends or takes hold of God's mercy in Jesus Christ (Psalm 51:1; 130:4).

3) True repentance means a change of attitude and action regarding sin. Hatred of sin turns the repentant person away from his or her sin to God (Psalm 119:128; Job 42:5–6; 2 Corinthians 7:10).

4) True repentance results in a radical and persistent pursuit of holy living, walking with God in obedience to His commands (2 Timothy 2:19–22; 1 Peter 1:16).

The focus of Jesus Christ's mission was to call sinners to repentance: "I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (Luke 5:32). His call of absolute surrender goes out to all people: "But unless you repent, you too will all perish." (Luke 13:5). In His farewell to the disciples, Jesus commanded that they take His message of repentance and faith to all the nations (Luke 24:47).

Repentance in the Bible involves a complete change of heart and mind, leading to different actions (Acts 26:20). Repentance recognizes that our sin is offensive to God. To repent is to make an about-face, a heart-directed turn away from self to God. Repentance sets us on a new trajectory, away from the past toward a future ruled by God's commands. Repentance acknowledges that the Lord reigns supreme over our existence.

#### **IV) The SOUL of God's Truth & Love! (v12-13)**

- **What is the fullness of Joy?** - My dear brothers and sisters in Christ it is all about **Jesus – Others - You!**

The “fullness of joy” is a theme in John’s writing (**1 John 1:4; 2 John v12**). He frequently stresses that Jesus calls His followers into a life of joy. When Jesus taught about abiding in Him and obeying the Father’s commands, He said, *“These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full”* (**John 15:11, ESV**). Before His arrest, Jesus prayed to the Father, saying, *“I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them”* (**John 17:13**).

**That your joy may be full** expresses a complete kind of joy—the utmost measure of joy. The disciples would soon know the most replete experience of joy or as much joy as was possible (**Luke 24:51–52**).

The Holy Spirit brings the fullness of joy to believers, giving them an inner sense of well-being, good fortune, peace, and happiness that is not dependent on external circumstances (see **2 Corinthians 7:4; Philippians 2:17; Colossians 1:24**).

This is the same “great joy” promised by the angels at the birth of Jesus (**Luke 2:10**). This joy comes to all who experience a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ (**Psalms 13:5; Romans 14:17; Philippians 4:4; 1 Peter 1:8–9**).

**Let us be JOYFUL!**

**Let's GO4GOD!**