

2 John is the shortest book in the Bible and the only book written directly to a woman, a very special elect lady and her family (v. 1, 13). The Apostle John was unique in his understanding of the love of God through Jesus Christ to Him and us. In this epistle John gives us the boundary of the love we have received and that we are to give. God's love is bound by the truth of God. We must love within the limits of sound Bible doctrine or our love is out of bounds. It has some limits. It is not all _____ or tolerant of false beliefs, doctrine, teachers, or leaders. Modern Christianity has a sloppy notion of love, but this passage to this elect lady sets the record straight today: the boundary of our love is always to be the truth of God.

TRUTH AND LOVE – 2 John 5-13

1. God's Commandments (Truth) and our Love of Another – v. 5-6

- John has already set the stage as he repetitively mentions _____ in his opening – v. 1-4

*Love in the **truth**...known the **truth** (v. 1)*

*For the **truth's** sake (v. 2)*

*In **truth** and love (v. 3)*

*Walking in **truth** (v. 4)*

- Before we can love rightly, we ourselves must be _____ rightly. The truth has been known to us from the beginning and must be settled with us first personally – 1 John 3:22; John 14:15.

2. When Our Love Goes Outside the Boundaries of the Doctrine of God and His Son, We do not Escape the Judgment of God – v. 7-9; 1 Pet. 4:17; 1 Cor. 11:31; Dan. 5:27

- _____ deceivers are **looking to deceive** us and others – v. 7; 1 John 2:18-19; 2 Tim. 3:13.

An antichrist ("against Christ") may declare "Jesus is the way"...but then demonstrate their belief is actually baptism, good works, their church/pet doctrine, apostolic succession, etc.

- We must **look to ourselves** and maintain a right balance of doctrine and love toward others to receive a _____ reward – v. 8; 1 Cor. 3:6-15; 2 Cor. 5:10; 1 Tim. 4:1-6, 16; 1 John 2:28.

We can _____ the things we have wrought (Matt. 6:19-20; Eph. 2:8-10; Rev. 3:11) =

- We are either full of the truth and the understanding of God (*the Father and Son*) doing things that matter for eternity or _____ of something else – v. 9; Jer. 5:30-31; Matt. 23:38; Rev. 16:10, 17:3-4.

3. True Love from God (*and us*) Speaks and Acts Truthfully – v. 10-11; John 1:14, 14:6, 17:17

- **Those who come to us with false doctrine** should _____ receive the gospel/good doctrine from us, not the hand of fellowship – Rom. 1:16, 16:17; 2 Chron. 19:2, 20:1-2, 35-37, 21:1-4; Eph. 5:11.

Receive him not into your house...neither bid him Godspeed (_____ of his evil deeds)

False teachers/preachers should be _____ around us (Pr. 28:1; Titus 1:9-14) =

- Our loving stand for the truths of God and doctrines of Christ _____ cause us some separation – Rom. 1:1; 1 Cor. 4:9-16; 2 Cor. 6:14-18, 11:4; 2 Tim. 4:2, 16-17.

4. One Day our Truth and Love will be Face to Face and Full of Joy – v. 12-13

- We will stand together physically in truth and love in the presence of God in the Kingdom of Heaven with all the saints of God from all ages _____ of joy – 1 Cor. 13:12; Heb. 12:22-23; Ps. 16:11.
- These two elect ladies mentioned in 2 John remind us of the two elect (*preferred, special*) ladies who God loves..._____ and the church– v. 1, 13; Is. 54:5-7; Jer. 3:14; Eph. 5:31-32; 2 Cor. 11:2.