

2 John

By James West

Key message of the book: 'Guard your fellowship in the truth.'

Background information:

John wrote this second epistle, possibly from Ephesus, around A.D. 90. He addresses the 'elect lady and her children,' which probably signifies another church in a different locality, to whom John had ministered at some stage. The purpose of writing is: 1. To encourage and exhort the believers to continue to walk in truth and love. 2. To warn against the Gnostic teachers, instructing the believers to refuse them any hospitality. John wanted to protect the believers in their walk of truth and love. There is a strong emphasis on the contrast between truth and falsehood in this very short epistle.

Outline of the book:

1. The fellowship of truth (vv. 1-4)
2. The imperative of love (vv. 5-6)
3. The danger of deception (vv. 7-9)
4. The means of protection (vv. 10-11)
5. The anticipation of fellowship (vv. 12-13)



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