

2 John

By James West

Key message of the book: 'Cultivate your love for the brethren.'

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:

Cultivate your love for the brethren. How?

1. Walk in truth. (vv. 1-4) Why?
 - a. It is appropriate for those who have known the truth. (v. 1)
 - b. Truth is our priceless possession. (v. 2)
 - c. By this means God's grace, mercy, and peace will be with us. (v. 3)
 - d. It is what pleases the Father. (v. 4)
2. Walk in love. (vv. 5-6) How?
 - a. Seek one another's welfare.
 - b. Continue in His commandments.
3. Be alert for deceivers who do not walk after the commandments. (vv. 7-9)
 - a. They deny the doctrine of Christ. (v. 7; see also 1 Tim 3:16)
 - b. They will compromise your heavenly rewards. (v. 8)
 - c. They are not of God. (v. 9)
4. Do not encourage them. (vv. 10-11)
 - a. Don't show them hospitality, or endanger those near to you in so doing. (v. 10)
 - b. Don't give any verbal encouragement to their endeavours. (v. 11)
5. Seek out the company of the brethren. (vv. 12-13)
 - a. It will increase your joy in the Lord.



TAMWORTH BIBLE
BAPTIST CHURCH

Copyright 2019 by James West

This publication is published for free distribution in digital format. See the Publications section at tbbc.org.au. We do not allow distribution of this publication from other websites.