

## **II John: Lesson #92 – Walking in Truth**

### **Notes for Parents to Study With Their Children**

### **For Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**

Read II John 1-13 (a simplified explanation of the text will be supplied at the end of these notes.)

**Memory Verse:** II John 8 “Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward.”

#### **John Writes His Second Letter**

- This is the second letter that the Apostle John wrote. It is addressed to “the chosen lady and her children”. At the end of this short letter John says, “the sister of the chosen lady and her children send their greetings to you.”
- Some people believe that John is writing to a Christian woman and her children. Others believe that John is really talking about the church and its members. There is no way to be absolutely sure which is true.
- Much of what John talks about, he had already said in I John.

#### **Walking in Truth**

- John uses the word “truth” a lot in this brief letter.
  - He loves these people in the truth.
  - He talks about those who know the truth.
  - He prays that truth will be with them from God and Jesus.
  - He was glad that these “children” were walking in the truth
  - He warns about those that are corrupting the truth.
- By truth John means God’s commandments as taught by Jesus Christ. Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth and the life.” (John 14:6) Here in II John 9 we are told, “Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.”
- John said he was very glad when he heard that they were “walking in truth.” In I John, he had talked about how we must walk in light, not in darkness; that we must walk just as Jesus walked. “Walking” means that we have to keep going. We have to continue to walk in the light of Jesus’ teaching. Only then will we be walking in truth.

#### **Three Repeats From I John**

- John makes two points once again that he had made in I John:
  1. He was not writing a new commandment, but the same one they had heard from the time of Christ – to love one another.
  2. The way you love one another is by walking according to the Lord’s commandments.
  3. John also warns them just like he had in I John about those who were telling things that were not true about Jesus. Remember some said He had not come in a fleshly body. Once again, John calls these antichrists.

## **Be Careful**

- John warns, “Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward.” (II John 8)
- It would be a terrible thing if a Christian, after years of service to Jesus, became deceived and led astray from the truth. But John makes it clear that anyone who wouldn’t stay with the teaching of Christ did not have God.
- We don’t want to lose what we’ve worked for, so we must stay faithful to Jesus.
- In fact, John says that if someone did not teach the truth, we should not say or do anything toward them that made it seem like they were right before God.

## **Simplified Explanation of the Text**

II John 1 The elder to the chosen lady and to her children, who I love in the truth, and not only me, but also all those who know the truth.

2 I write so that truth will remain in us and will be with us forever.

3 Grace, mercy and peace be with you in love and truth from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father.

4 I was very glad when I found out your children are walking in the truth, receiving it just as it was commanded by the Father.

5 And now I plead with you, lady, not like I was writing some new commandment, but the same command we’ve had from the beginning – to love each other.

6 And this is how you really love: walk according to His commandments. That is the commandment that you’ve heard from the very beginning that you are to walk in.

7 I must remind you about all that was originally taught about the Lord because many people are wandering about in the world corrupting the truth. Some are deceiving people saying that Jesus Christ did not come in a fleshly body. Such a person as that is leading people into error and is an antichrist.

8 Take a good look at yourselves to make sure you don’t lose what you’ve worked for, but that you’ll receive a full reward.

9 Any one who does not stay on the right path, but wanders off not staying in Christ’s teaching, does not have God. Any one who remains with Christ’s teaching will have both the Father and the Son.

10-11 If anyone comes to you and does not bring Christ’s teaching, do not take that person into your house or give them any kind of joyous greeting. To give them such a favorable greeting implies that you have fellowship with their evil works.

12 With so many things to say to you, I can’t put it all down with paper and ink, but I hope to be able to come to you and speak face to face with you so that your joy will be full.

13 The children of you chosen sister send their greetings to you. Amen.