



~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



Vol. 14 Issue 260

Sept. 19, 2011

Prayer

God Father; in Jesus' name I ask it God, Father, I pray that we will always walk in Truth, just as You have commanded us. God, I pray that we would live and walk in accordance with and guided by Your commandments and that we will continue to walk in love. Lord led and guide each person this week, as to Your will for them and plans, and I ask bless them and give them favor, in Your precious name. Amen

Worship Music

[You'll Come-Hillsong](#)

[Stronger-Hillsong](#)

[Oceans Will Part-Hillsong](#)

[Lord I Believe In You-Crystal Lewis](#)

Scripture

2 John (2005)

2 John 1:1-13 (KJV)

- ¹The elder unto the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth; and not I only, but also all they that have known the truth;
- ²For the truth's sake, which dwelleth in us, and shall be with us for ever.
- ³Grace be with you, mercy, *and* peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.
- ⁴I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father.
- ⁵And now I beseech thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another.
- ⁶And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.
- ⁷For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.
- ⁸Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.
- ⁹Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.
- ¹⁰If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into *your* house, neither bid him God speed:
- ¹¹For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.
- ¹²Having many things to write unto you, I would not *write* with paper and ink: but I trust to come unto you, and speak face to face, that our joy may be full.
- ¹³The children of thy elect sister greet thee. Amen.

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Caution Against False Teachers

I ask that we love one another. And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love.

2 John 5–6

This letter and 3 John are personal notes to friends whom John expected to visit soon. He wrote other letters (see 1 John 2:14 ; 3 John 9), perhaps many of them. Personal letters such as these would, because of their brevity and private nature, be less generally read in Christian assemblies than letters addressed to churches and would consequently be less widely known. These two short letters were, under the guidance of God's Spirit, rescued from oblivion and preserved for the church, possibly by being attached to a copy of 1 John in the particular church or churches where they had been received.

The Elder (2 John 1)

The other apostles had all died years before. John alone was left, the last surviving companion of Jesus, the leader of all Christendom. How appropriate this title, "The Elder."

The Chosen Lady (v. 1)

She may have been an individual, a well-known and prominent woman, somewhere near Ephesus, in whose home a church met. Or John may be referring to a local church, symbolically called a lady (just as the church as a whole is called "the Bride of Christ"). Her "chosen sister" (v. 13) is then either another prominent Christian woman leader in the congregation in which John was resident, or the congregation itself.

Truth (vv. 1–4)

The word "truth" is used five times in the first four verses.

- Love in truth (v. 1)
- "Know the truth" (v. 1)
- Truth lives in us (v. 2)
- "Grace, mercy and peace ... will be with us in truth and love" (v. 3)
- "Walking in the truth" (v. 4) , the true doctrine of Christ is truth (v. 9), as is the fact that He is the Son of God and that following Him means walking in His commandments (v. 6). And His chief commandment is that we love one another (v. 5).

False Teachers (vv. 7–11)

These are the teachers John already referred to in 1 John 2:18–29 : they go from church to church, teaching in the name of Christ doctrines that are utterly subversive of the Christian faith. This letter seems to have been written to caution the "chosen lady" to be on her guard and to refuse hospitality to such teachers. Note that the warning is prefaced by an exhortation to love (2 John 5–6), as if to indicate that the practice of Christian love does not mean that we should give encouragement to enemies of the truth.

(Halley's Bible Handbook; Henry Halley; 2000; Zondervan; Bible history & commentaries; pages 889-890)



V1 John refers to himself as " the elder." We don't know the identity of "elect lady" to whom this letter is addressed. "Truth" is central to the message of this letter. V5 The commandment to love was given to the believers at the beginning of Christ's ministry. V6 The commandment is to walk in love (John 13:34). V7 This should be translated "who confess not that Jesus Christ is coming in the flesh." Jehovah's Witnesses don't believe that Christ will come again in the flesh. V10 The doctrine John refers to is that Jesus is coming in the flesh and that we should worship the Father and the Son.

(New Testament Study Guide; The Word For Today; Chuck Smith; 2005; commentary; page 185-186)



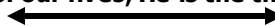
Have you ever heard the saying, "if you talk the talk, you have to walk the walk?" As a Christian, it is not enough to know the truth of God's Word; we have to live it out. The Word of God is full of ways to practically apply and walk in the truth that we know. In what ways can you apply the truth that you know to your everyday life right now? Let me encourage you to study the Word diligently, and ask God to keep showing you how to walk in the truth more and more. In this day of e-mail, text messages, and cell phones, taking time for personal visits is not always a priority. When was the last time you had a face-to-face visit with a Christian friend? While there are many ways to communicate, there is no substitute for taking time to fellowship and to share with one another about what God is teaching you and to encourage and pray with one another. Whether sharing a meal, going for a walk, or meeting for a cup of coffee, how can you make time to experience the joy of being together with other Christians?

Jesus said that when we love Him, we will obey Him (see John 14:15), and the apostle John writes that love for God consists of our obedience to Him (see 2 John 6). I like to say that the level of our obedience to Jesus determines the level of our love for Him. I believe our love for Him and obedience to Him can grow—and they do. Everything in our relationship with God after initial salvation is a process. Do not be disappointed with yourself if you are still in the process. Jesus will not be angry when He comes to get you if you have not arrived at the mark of perfection, but He does expect to find all of us pressing on.

The commandment we should strive to obey throughout our lives is to walk in love. Our lives and behavior will change dramatically if all of our thoughts, words, and actions are guided by love. They are to be guided by our love for God, ourselves, and others. God's Word teaches us to love everyone, including ourselves. I like to say, "Do not be *in* love with yourself, but love yourself in a balanced way." If you refuse to love yourself, then you are not receiving the gift God wants to give you. We cannot deserve God's love. It comes to us unconditionally. God loves us first, and He pours His love into us so we can love Him, ourselves, and others. He does not expect us to give away anything we do not have.

Sometimes we make being a Christian very difficult and complicated. We think we must follow hundreds of rules and do multitudes of things, but Jesus said that if we simply walk in love, that is enough (see John 15:12). The reason for this is that if we concentrate on love, all the other things He asks us to do will also get done. Love motivates us to obey, pray, be kind and merciful, give, forgive, repent, and practice other aspects of our Christian faith.

Let me encourage you to study love. Read everything you can about love. Think about it, talk about it, and practice it. God is love and when love is the theme of our lives, He is the theme also.



STUDY QUESTIONS FOR 2ND JOHN:

1. Second John 1:6 ways that we should walk in His commandments. What is the commandment that Jesus gave? (Also see John 13:34).

2. Who does verse 7 say is a deceiver and an antichrist?

3. According to verse 4, why was John rejoicing?

4. Read the exhortation in verse 8. What has the Lord called you to do in your life right now that would warrant a full reward in heaven?

5. What is John's warning in verses 9 and 10?

(Amplified Bible; The Everyday Life; 2005; Joyce Meyers; Scripture, commentaries, pages 2108-2111)
(Word Search 9, Bible Software; (KJV) 2005; Bibles, dictionary, concordance, sermons, scripture)

Psa 119:105
Thy word [is] a lamp unto
my feet, and a light unto my path.



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