

The Letters of John – 2 John

“Walking in the Truth” – February 21, 2021



Introduction

We are not on neutral ground when it comes to the truth; we are at war. Our flesh resists the truth, the devil seeks to deceive, and the world skews and twists it. Knowing there are teachers hanging around who claim to know the truth but proclaim lies...how can the church guard against being deceived? In his second letter (2 John), the apostle equips us.

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Sermon Outline

- I. Covered with the truth
- II. Called to walk in the truth
- III. Command to love one another

Read & Discuss

Read [2 John](#)

Truth is a repeated theme in this letter – (take a moment to note each occurrence in 2 John). When it comes to knowing the truth, the Christian does not look within themselves (feelings, desires, heart, etc.) but *outside* themselves: as revealed in Scripture, the Person of Jesus (John 14:6), and with the help of His Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth (Jn 14:16-17). Looking at v1-3:

- How did they (and we) come to know the truth (v3)? What difference does knowing this make?
- Notice in v2, John states that the truth “abides in us and will be with us forever.” How does knowing this promise of God’s truth *abiding* in us offer hope for the future?

Not only are we to *know* the truth we are to *walk* in it (obey God’s commands, letting it control every area of our lives).

- How is *walking in the truth* a guard against false teaching and falling prey to lies about God?
- With the help of God’s Spirit in our lives, God’s commands are *not* burdensome (1 Jn. 5:3) – we are able to say ‘no’ to sin and ‘yes’ to God. He gives us the power to obey. If that is true, what can we do to appropriate the help of His Spirit?

After calling us to walk in the truth, John zeroes in on a specific command he doesn’t want us to miss: to love one another.

- How does church members loving one another (as John commands) serve as a guard against error and false teaching? If such love is a protection, what activities should mark our love for one another?
- What are ways you can express such love *today*?

Additional Reading: John 13:34-35, John 14:21, Psalm 19

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

***Next week's sermon text:** we turn to John 2:1-25 "Glory, Judgment, and the Temple"