

Study 9

Read 2 John 1-6

Walk in Love and Truth

Summary- John is able to love the elect lady and her children in truth because he and others have known the truth, and it abides in them now and forever. In truth and love, he sends grace, peace and mercy to them from God the Father and the Son. He rejoices greatly that some of her children are walking in the truth, as commanded by the Father. He pleads with them as he has from the beginning, to love one another. The love that they are to exercise is manifested in their walking in obedience to His commandments, which they have heard from the beginning.

Central Teaching- Walk in truth and love according to the commandments which we have heard from the beginning.

Ten things this passage says-

1. John and all those who had known the truth loved the elect lady and her children in truth.
2. Their true love was enabled by the truth that was in them then and forever.
3. God the Father and the Son are the givers of grace, mercy and peace.
4. It is because of love and truth that God gives us grace, mercy and peace.
5. Some of the recipients of this letter were walking in the truth.
6. God's commandments are a measuring stick by which we measure truth and our obedience to truth. There is absolute truth.
7. The commandment to love one another is not new, but has been heard from the beginning.
8. Loving one another is important, and should be a key point on which we encourage one another and teach our students.
9. We show love by walking according to His commandments.
10. God's commandments don't change, nor should our obedience to them waver.

What does this passage teach me about God?

He loves in truth.

He is truth.

He gives us truth now and forever.

He is the giver of grace, mercy and peace, in truth and love.

He rejoices when His children walk in the truth.

He commands us in the way we should go.

His commandments are unchanging.

He demands obedience as proof of love.

He does not consider one-time obedience to be true love. We must *walk* in obedience in order to show our love for Him.

Questions-

Who do you think "the elder" is? Why did he call himself that? V 1

Who do you think “the chosen lady” and “her children” are? V 1

What is the basis of the love that John had for these people? V 1

Why is it significant that the basis for our love as Christians is truth? V 2

What is the truth that abides in us and will be with us forever? V 2 *The Lord Jesus Christ (John 14:6), the Holy Spirit (1 John 5:6) or the Bible (John 17:17).*

Why do you think “grace, mercy and peace” are mentioned specifically here? V 3

Why does it mention that these gifts are ours from God the Father and from Jesus Christ? V 3

Why is it significant that these three gifts are ours “in truth and love”? V 3

What do you think John means by “some” of your children? Do you think that true Christians will walk in the truth all the time? V 4

What does it mean to “walk in the truth”? V 4

Why are we to walk in the truth? V 4

Why is it important to understand that the command to love is not a new commandment? V 5

When did we first hear this commandment? V 5

What do you think it means to “love one another”? V 5

What is love, according to this verse? V 6

Why did he mention commandments, and then only commandment? V 6

Why is it significant that we have heard the same commandments since the beginning? V 6