

Study 10

Read 2 John 7-13

Summary- There are many deceivers and antichrists who go out into the world spreading false doctrine that does not acknowledge Jesus' humanity. We must be careful not to believe them or help them, lest we lose some of our reward. If we sin and do not have a biblical understanding of Christ, we do not have God, but we have both God and Christ if we practice sound doctrine.

Central Teaching- Sound doctrine is of utmost importance, whether we are practicing it ourselves or showing hospitality to those who teach it.

Key Verse- 8

Ten things this passage says-

1. Many deceivers have gone out into the world.
2. These deceivers and antichrists do not confess the humanity of Jesus Christ.
3. We need to be careful not to lose our reward which we have worked for.
4. If we sin and do not abide in the doctrine of Christ, we do not have God.
5. If we abide in the doctrine of Christ, we have both the Father and the Son.
6. We should not receive or greet anyone who comes to us without the proper biblical understanding of who Christ is.
7. We must be discerning about who we help in ministry.
8. If we help those who are spreading lies about Christ, we share in their evil deeds.
9. Face to face communication provides fuller joy than letters.
10. Everything John wrote is true, and will be carried out.

What does this passage teach us about God?

God's truth is unchanging and incontrovertible.

He will not tolerate false teaching raised up against Him.

He gives rewards, and takes them away, based on our obedience to Him.

If we have Him, we have the Son also.

He requires us to be careful in our doctrine and in our ministry to others.

He is uncompromising towards those who practice evil or help those who practice evil.

He is truth, and He will fulfill everything He has written.

Questions-

1. Where do many deceivers and antichrists choose to attack Christianity? Why is this particular point so key? V 7
2. What is the best way for us as Christians to guard against error? V 7

3. What should our response be to the appearance of these deceivers? V 8
4. What are some practical ways we can do this? V 8
5. What is a consequence of failing to use truth as a measure of who we should fellowship with? V 8
6. According to this verse, what is evidence of lack of salvation? V 9
7. What does it mean to “not abide in the teaching of Christ”? V 9
8. According to this verse, what is evidence of a saving faith? V 9
9. What does the statement “he has both the Father and the Son” indicate? V 9
10. What should our welcome be to false teachers who deliberately deceive about the doctrine of the person of Jesus Christ? V 10
11. What should our welcome be to believers who have different doctrine than we do, but on relatively minor points? V 10
12. What should our welcome be to unbelievers? V 10
13. Conversely, what kinds of people should we offer ready hospitality to? V 10
14. In what ways can we be hospitable to others? V 10
15. Why should we not receive false teachers into our homes, or greet them? V 11
16. What would our welcome of such false teachers indicate to them and others? V11

17. What are the eternal consequences of such actions? V 11
18. What response, if any, should we have to false teachers? V 11
19. John wrote that he hoped to come to them soon and speak “face to face.” What would that indicate that he was expecting of their hospitality towards him? V 12
20. Why would their joy be made full? V 12
21. Would this same fullness of joy be possible if they were showing hospitality towards false teachers and deceivers? What could you say is necessary for joy to be made full? V 12
22. Who do “the children of your chosen sister” refer to? V 13
23. Who is the “chosen sister”? V 13
24. Why does John end the book with “Amen”? V 13