



# Walking In Truth And Love

**"I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father" (2 John 1:4).**

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**"The elder unto the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth; " (2 John 1:1).**

"The 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; 2 For the truth's sake, which dwelleth in us, and shall be with us for ever. 3 Grace 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. 4 I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father. 5 And 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. 6 And 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" (2 John 1:1-6).

John addressed this epistle to "the elect lady and her children". It is possible that these "children" may have been members of the local church pastored by the elect lady. Our text centres on truth and love - a combination that produces the perfection of Godliness. We have already known that God is love (1 John 4:8,16), and that Jesus is the truth (John 14:6); therefore walking in truth and love is simply walking "after his commandments" (2 John 1:6). i.e. living a life worthy of the call of God.

Truth is so important that Jonah learnt from bitter experience that "They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy" (Jonah 2:8). Note these salient points:

- 1) "... whom I love in the truth; and not I only, but also all they that have known the truth" (vs 1). Birds of a feather flock together. Truth attracts its likes. Those who know the truth, love the truth are drawn to each others.
- 2) "For the truth's sake, which dwelleth in us, and shall be with us for ever" (vs 2). Truth begins from inner experience. A person may create an appearance of truth around himself / herself, but if there is no truth within, it is all fake. Jesus is the indwelling truth (John 14:6) that is why He is capable of being with us for ever.
- 3) "Grace 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" (vs 3).

All blessings from God (Grace, mercy, peace) flow through the channel of "truth and love".

- 4) "I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father" (vs 4). Walking in the truth begins with a positive response to the commandment of God. It is a source of great joy to human and God to find people walking in the truth of the Gospel they have received. There is great joy in heaven over one sinner that discovers, embraces and walks in the truth (Luke 15:7,10).
- 5) Walking in the truth is all that God has called us to do "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" (Micah 6:8). When you cannot run, simply walk with God. Enoch walked with God and was taken alive to heaven!
- 6) When you decide to walk with in truth, don't look around to see who else is following. Peter had just responded three times that he loved Jesus more than these, but when Jesus said "Follow me" then Peter turned about and seeing the disciple whom Jesus loved following, said to Jesus "Lord, and what shall this man do?" We can learn a lot from Jesus' answer "If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me." (John 21:19-23). In other words, that is not your business. Your business is simply to follow me!
- 7) Verses 5 and 6 re-emphasises the commandment to walk in love through abiding in God's word.

In these last days when some will profess to know God but their lives proves otherwise (Titus 1:16); It behoves the wise to heed the divine admonition "But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer" (1 Peter 4:7).