

2 John - Part 8
1, 2, 3 John – Truth
09/18/2022

- This letter explores the importance of truth—both practicing and protecting it.

2 John 1-6 (ESV) The elder to the elect lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all who know the truth, because of the truth that abides in us and will be with us forever: Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love. I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as we were commanded by the Father. And now I ask you, dear lady—not as though I were writing you a new commandment, but the one we have had from the beginning—that we love one another. 6 And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments; this is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, so that you should walk in it.

Truth:

1st) Creates COMMON interests.

2 John 1 (ESV) The elder to the elect lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all who know the truth,

John 14:6 (NIV) Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Matt. 5:38-39 (NIV) "You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' 39 But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also.

- "Authority"
- Binding and Loosing
- To bind something meant to forbid it and to loose something meant to allow it
- Giving the keys of the kingdom

Matt. 16:19 (NIV) I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

- Intimacy with Jesus

John 8:32 (NIV) Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

- John connects his readers with Jesus which connects us to each other

2nd) Comes from GOD.

2 John 3 (ESV) Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love.

- Grace
- Mercy
- Peace
- Health of our soul

Psalm 13:3 (NLT) Restore a sparkle to my eyes

- We longed for life to be good again
- Our souls have suffered
- A new job won't fix it
- A beautiful vacation won't fix it
- A ...won't fix it
- My soul longs for God

Psalm 42:1-2 (NIV) As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?

- Grace
- Mercy
- Peace
- Our soul longs for Jesus as he really is the source of life

Matt. 11:28-30 (MSG) "Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."

3rd) Brings **JOY**.

2 John 4 (ESV) I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children walking in the truth,

Neh. 8:10 (ESV) for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

- He read them the law of God
- As this realization was settling in, they were grieving because they hadn't lived as they were supposed to live

Neh. 8:9–10 (MSG) "'This day is holy to God, your God. Don't weep and carry on.' They said this because all the people were weeping as they heard the words of The Revelation. He continued, 'Go home and prepare a feast, holiday food and drink; and share it with those who don't have anything: This day is holy to God. Don't feel bad. The joy of God is your strength!'"

- This verse is about reveling in the forgiveness and grace of God
- This verse is about celebrating that it brings God joy to forgive us and welcome us even though we have broken the law.
- God is calling us into His own celebration and joy
- Ours is a joyful God, and He wants to make us a joyful people
- He wants their joy to come from being a forgiven people, a forgiven people who want to invite others into the party:
- “Go home and prepare a feast, holiday food and drink; and share it with those who don’t have anything.”
- The really great news is that even on the days when you don’t feel joyful or you don’t want to share your feast, God is still rejoicing over you and forgiving you and loving you. Rejoice!

Luke 15:7 (ESV) Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

- That’s the joy John is writing about here
- The joy of salvation!

4th) Is **CONSISTENT**.

2 John 5 (ESV) And now I ask you, dear lady—not as though I were writing you a new commandment, but the one we have had from the beginning—that we love one another.

- God makes a big deal out of love.
- Love is Unnatural
- God is willing to repeat himself so that we will understand...and we have a hard time getting it.