

Single Chapter Bible Study
Part 2
2 & 3 John: Truth and Godliness
2 John 1 & 3 John 1

The second and third John is considerably shorter than the Gospel of John and the book of 1 John. However we can glean from both of these books (2 & 3 John) and learn a wealth of knowledge. There are a few things to remember. First, both of these books were addressed to individuals but can be used for groups and churches. Also this lesson is broken into two main sections. The first covers 2 John and starts with 6 Biblical questions and then 3 Personal questions. The section covers 3 John and have the same breakdown.

1.) Who is addressed in the second letter from John?

2 John 1:1

2.) What is John talking about to start this epistle?

2 John 1:1-3; John 14:16-17; John 16:13-15

3.) What makes John rejoice?

2 John 1:4; John 14:8-12

4.) What is John asking the lady to do?

2 John 1:5-6; John 13:34-35; John 14:14-15; 1 John 2:3-6

5.) What doctrine is problematic and what does John call these people?

2 John 1:7-9; 1 John 2:18-22

6.) Who should we avoid and why?

2 John 1:10-13, Romans 16:17-19

A.) John stresses truth a lot in this letter. Why is it so important to have truth in our lives? How can truth affect our relationship with God and people?

B.) Our works cannot save us but it is important to follow Jesus commandments. It is by following His commandments that we reveal love for the Lord. Name an example that is in society where following a law, rule, pact, or commitment also reveals a love or relationship between two or more people.

C.) What is your first thought when you hear the words, antichrist? Look at the scriptures from question 5. Notice that the antichrists seem to come from the church speaking a false doctrine. How should we protect ourselves from possible false teachings when it comes from people that we might trust?

7.) Who does John address in the third letter?

3 John 1:1

8.) What does John wish for his friend?

3 John 1:2

9.) What did Gaius do that revealed his spiritual side?

3 John 1:3-4

10.) What does Gaius do for the community?

3 John 1:5-8

11.) Who is trying to stop the ministry and what acts does he commit?

3 John 1:9-11

12.) Who receives a good report from John and many followers?

3 John 1:12-14

D.) When John was writing to his friend, he wanted him to prosper, be in good health, and to be spiritually well. Why is it important to be well in all aspects? Do we sometimes emphasize health and spirit but stay away from being prosperous?

E.) Look at the acts that Gaius did both spiritually and physically for his community. Name at least one thing you can do both spiritually and physically for your community or people in the world.

F.) Sometimes we take over a ministry and forget that God is ultimately in control. Why would someone do this and what can we do to make sure that we never overrun God's true position to be in control of the ministry? What harm can come if someone take over and runs the church as they want instead of what God desires?

Just a Thought

John speaks with love in a very personal way. It shows up greatly in 1 John and you can see his character be revealed in the various gospels. However, he also wanted to make sure that he encouraged a few people and those letters/epistles ended up in the Bible. What we can glean from them is to walk in truth and allow our love for Christ be revealed in how we keep his commandments. Also it is very important to be a good person to all people and to never commandeer a ministry or church for our own pride and control.

Lesson written by: Elder Ricky R. LaVaughn

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