

LOVE FOR THE TRUTH

II John 1-4

Introduction:

- A. The recipients of the letter.
 - 1. "the elect lady."
 - a. elect = chosen out, preferred.
 - b. lady = (fem. of lord) used as an honourable title of address, also a Greek proper name, Kuria or Cyria.
 - 2. "and her children."
 - a. The church does not seem to have children.
 - b. "mother church" assumes life giving.

- B. The basis of the relationship.
 - 1. "whom I love in the truth."
 - 2. "for the truth's sake."

- C. The reason for rejoicing.
 - 1. "I rejoiced greatly."
 - 2. "thy children walk in truth."
 - 3. "some of they children walk in truth."

- D. The reason for the letter.
 - 1. Continue to walk in love. vs. 5,6.
 - 2. Watch for deceivers. vs. 7.
 - 3. Be careful to continue in the truth. vs. 8.
 - 4. The basis of false doctrine. vs. 9.
 - 5. How to react in love to deceivers. vs. 10,11.

I . WHAT IS TRUTH? WHAT SHALL WE LOVE?

- A. The truth is God.
 - 1. truth = the manifested, veritable, essence of a matter, the divine reality, what is ultimately real, namely, God Himself. Truth is God, God is truth.

- B. Jesus Christ is truth.
 - 1. He is the manifestation of truth. Truth incarnate, the way truth behaves in human body.
 - 2. John 14:6 "I am the way, the truth, and the life."

- C. The Holy Spirit is truth.
 - 1. He is the revelation of truth.
 - 2. "All scripture is given by inspiration..."
 - 3. II Peter 1:21 "holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

I I . THE TRUTH WILL ABIDE FOREVER. VS. 2

- A. "For the truth's sake, which dwelleth in us."
 - 1. dwelleth = to remain, stay, abide.
 - 2. God's truth will never diminish, nor will it ever cease to be.
 - a. "Heaven and earth shall pass away,"
"Thy word, O Lord, endureth forever."

- B. "and shall be with us forever."
 - 1. "will be with us unto the end of the age."
 - 2. Nothing left but the truth.

I I I . PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF TRUTH

- A. We may know the truth.
 - 1. "All they that have known the truth."
 - a. known = the perfect tense emphasizes the continuing results of having known the truth."
 - 2. How do we know the truth experientially?
 - a. "study to show....."

- B. We will love others who love the truth.
 - 1. "whom I love in the truth."
 - 2. "and not only I, but they that have known the truth"

- C. We are commanded to walk in truth. vs. 4
 - 1. "I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth."
 - a. rejoiced greatly = very much.
 - b. walking = to walk about, to conduct ones life.
 - 2. What acts of our children bring us the greatest joy?

4. III. THE BENEFICIAL RESULTS OF TRUTH VS. 3

- A. "Grace (shall be) with you."
 - 1. Grace and truth are inseparable.
 - 2.
- B. The gracious companions of truth.
 - 1. "Grace, mercy and peace."

IV. COMMON MYTHS ABOUT TRUTH

- A. "The world is hungry for the truth."
 - 1. There is no evidence that this is so.
 - 2. The world is hungry for half-truths.
- B. "Truth crushed to the earth will rise again."
 - 1. It is an anvil!
 - 2. It is a rose!
- C. "Truth is the way you see things."
 - 1. Truth is the way God sees things.
- D. "Teachers of truth will be universally loved."
 - 1. Jesus wasn't and isn't.
 - 2. The church wasn't and isn't.

