

Sunday Morning in the Word



April 22, 2018



One Chapter Wonders

Rediscovering the
New Testament Books
of

2 John, 3 John,
Philemon, and Jude

Coming to Grace Sunday Mornings Beginning **April
22nd**



One Chapter Wonders

Rediscovering the New Testament Book of 2 John

Sunday April 22nd

The elder: To the elect lady and her children,
whom I love in the truth—and not only I, but also
all who know the truth—

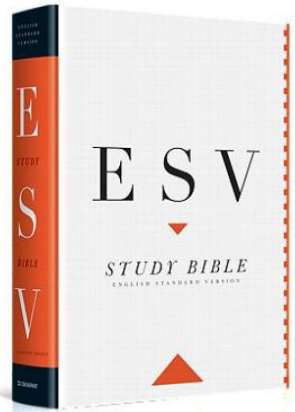
2 John 1

CSB

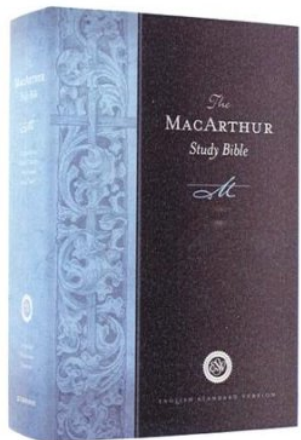
The elder: **To the elect lady and her children,**
whom I love in the truth—and not only I, but also
all who know the truth—

2 John 1

CSB



ESV Study Bible - The elect lady and her children probably refers to a local congregation and its members.



MacArthur Study Bible - the elect lady and her children. Some think that this phrase refers metaphorically to a particular local church, while “her children” would refer to members of the congregation. The more natural understanding in context, however, is that it refers to a particular woman and her children (i.e., offspring) who were well known to John.

“While the matter is probably incapable of a final solution within the limits of our present knowledge, the balance of probability seems to be on the side of the corporate (church congregation) interpretation.”



James M. Boice

Though I have **many things to write to you**, I don't want to use paper and ink. Instead, I hope to come to you and talk face to face so that our joy may be complete.

2 John 12

CSB

I was very glad to find some of your children walking in truth, in keeping with a command we have received from the Father.

2 John 4

CSB

*“Inns were notoriously dirty and flea-infested,
while innkeepers were notoriously greedy.”*

(William Barclay)

“Not all these roving reverends were
worthy of the warm hospitality of a hot
meal and a warm bed.”



Lucian, Ancient
Greek Writer
(120-180 AD)

In his writings, Lucian drew the picture of a man who had found the easiest possible way to make a living without working ... traveling round the various communities of Christians and living luxuriously at their expense.

“Let everyone that comes in the name of the Lord be received. If he is minded to settle among you, and be a craftsman, let him work and eat. But, if he has no trade, according to your understanding, provide that he shall not be idle among you, being a Christian. But if you will not do this, he is a **Christmonger**: of such men beware
beware.”

(The Didache)

If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your home, and don't greet him; for the one who greets him shares in his evil works.

2 John 10–11

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The Structure of 2 John

John's Greeting (vv. 1-3)

John's Warm Commendation (vv. 4-6)

John's Stern Caution (vv. 7-11)

John's Good-bye (vv. 12-13)

John's Greeting (vv. 1-3)

The elder: To the elect lady and her children,
whom I love in the truth—and not only I, but
also all who know the truth—because of the
truth that remains in us and will be with us
forever. Grace, mercy, and peace will be with
us from God the Father and from Jesus Christ,
2 John 1-3 the Son of the Father, in truth and love. CSB

John's Greeting (vv. 1-3)

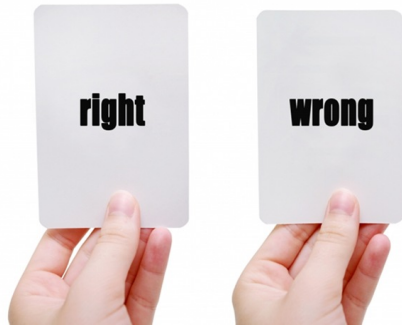
The elder: To the elect lady and her children,
whom I love in **the truth**—and not only I, but
also all who know **the truth**—because of **the**
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us from God the Father and from Jesus Christ,
2 John 1-3 CSB
the Son of the Father, in **truth** and love.

Matthew, Mark, and Luke each use
the word ONCE in their gospels.
John in his gospel uses the word
23 times!



In his three letters (1, 2, 3 John) he
uses the word another **17** times!

In the entire New Testament, 43% of the uses of the
word "truth" occurs in the books written by John!



57% of American adults believe knowing right or wrong is a matter of personal experience.

74% of Millennials (ages 21-36) agree strongly or somewhat with the statement,

“Whatever is right for your life or works best for you is the only truth you can know.”

“Our culture is in a war against **Transcendent Truth** and anyone who dares to stand for that Truth. If it is a transcendent truth about anything: sex, marriage, male and female, God, Jesus, salvation by Him alone, moral right and wrong... anything... you will be either opposed or openly hated by the cultural ‘elites’.

Although the war against truth has been raging from the Garden, it has never been so openly waged in our culture as it is today.”



Del Tackett

“You are a king then?” Pilate asked. “You say that I’m a king,” Jesus replied. **“I was born for this, and I have come into the world for this: to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.”** “What is truth?” said Pilate.

John 18:37–38

CSB

John's Greeting (vv. 1-3)

Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

John's Warm Commendation (vv. 4-6)

I was very glad to find some of your children walking in truth, in keeping with a command we have received from the Father. So now I ask you, dear lady—not as if I were writing you a new command, but one we have had from the beginning—that we **love** one another. This is **love**: that we walk according to his commands. This is the command as you have heard it from the beginning: that you walk in **love**.

Matthew – 11 times

Mark – 4 times

Luke – 12 times

John – 39 times



“love”

In his three letters (1, 2, 3 John) he
uses the word another **33** times!

John's Warm Commendation (vv. 4-6)

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John's Warm Commendation (vv. 4-6)

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to **walk** in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called.

Ephesians 4:1

CSB

John's Warm Commendation (vv. 4-6)

Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time.

Colossians 4:5

CSB

John's Warm Commendation (vv. 4-6)

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This is how we know that we love God's children:
when we love God and obey his commands. **For
this is what love for God is: to keep his
commands.** And his commands are not a burden.

1 John 5:2–3

CSB

But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. **“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?”**

Matthew 22:34-36

CSB

He (Jesus) said to him, “**Love the Lord your God** with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important command. The second is like it: **Love your neighbor** as yourself. **All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands.**”

Matthew 22:37–40

CSB

“Our love grows soft if it is not strengthened by truth, and our truth grows hard if it is not softened by love.”



John Stott

John's Stern Caution

Many deceivers have gone out into the world; they do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist. **Watch yourselves** so you don't lose what we have worked for, but that you may receive a full reward.

2 John 7–8

CSB

John's Stern Caution

Anyone who does not remain in Christ's teaching but goes beyond it does not have God. The one who remains in that teaching, this one has both the Father and the Son.

John's Stern Caution

If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your home, and don't greet him; for the one who greets him shares in his evil works.

2 John 10–11

CSB

“aid and abet”



Aiding and abetting is a legal doctrine related to the guilt of someone who aids or abets in the commission of a crime. It generally allows a court to pronounce someone guilty for **aiding and abetting** in a crime even if they are not the principal offender.

John's Stern Caution

If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your home, and don't greet him; for the one who greets him shares in his evil works.

2 John 10–11

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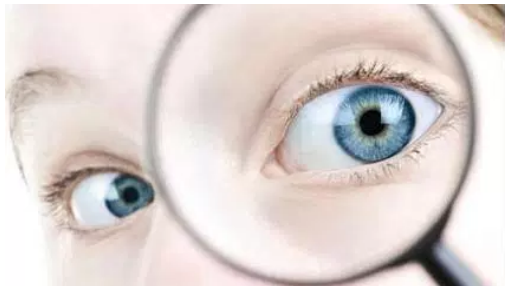
John's Goodbye

Though I have many things to write to you, I don't want to use paper and ink. Instead, I hope to come to you and talk face to face so that our joy may be complete. The children of your elect sister send you greetings.

2 John 12–13

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Today's Takeaways – Examine yourself!



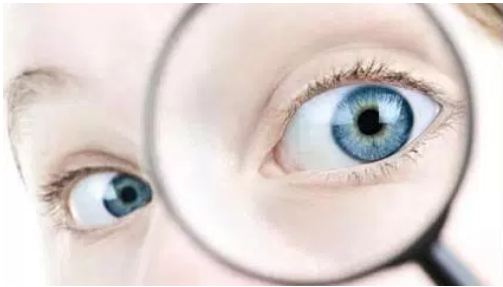
1. How well do you KNOW the truth, and how are you doing at WALKING in the truth?

Today's Takeaways – Examine yourself!



2. How is your LOVE life (first toward God and then toward others)?

Today's Takeaways – Examine yourself!



3. Are you investing in the support of ministries and missionaries which are true to the true gospel?

But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

Galatian 1:8

CSB