

2 John 5-11

- I. The Classic command – Love one another (5-6)
 - A. I'm reminding you of the classic command that we should love one another (5)
 - 1. I am reminding you of the classic command (5a-d)
 - a I am asking you, Lady/Church (5a)
 - b Not a new, but the classic command (5b-d)
 - 1) Neg: Not writing to you a new command (5b)
 - 2) Pos: But the command we already have had (5c-d)
 - a) But I am writing to you the command (5c)
 - b) Which we have had from the beginning (5d)
 - 2. That we would/should love one another (5e)
 - B. Explanation of the classic command (6)
 - 1. This is love – living according to His commands (6a-b)
 - a This is love: (6a)
 - b That we live according to His commands (6b)
 - Literally, “walk according to His commands”
 - “walk” = lifestyle
 - 2. This is the classic command so that you will live by it (6c-e)
 - a This is the command you heard from the beginning (6c-d)
 - 1) This is the command: (6c)
 - 2) Just as you heard from the beginning (6d)
 - b Purpose: So that you may live by it/walk in it (6e)
 - Just a reminder and encouragement to do what we all know we need to do
 - We just need motivation and help to do it
 - Reminder that love= obedience,
 - Not just a nebulous emotion without content or action
- II. Reason: False teaching and false teachers exist and are dangerous (7-11)
 - A. Be on guard against deception and loss (7-8)
 - 1. Watch out for the deceivers that deny Christ (7)
 - a Many deceivers have gone out into the world (7a)
 - b Explanation and description of the deceivers: (7b-c)
 - 1) The ones who do not confess Jesus Christ coming in flesh (7b)
 - Theological orthodoxy is the true test of a true church
 - Don't be too enamored with other things that you forget the core
 - 2) This is the deceiver and the antichrist (7c)
 - 2. Watch yourselves so that you'll get the full reward (8)
 - a Watch/guard yourselves (8a)
 - b Purpose: So that you will receive the full reward that we have worked for (8b-c)
 - 1) Neg: So that you do not lose the things we have accomplished (8b)
 - 2) Pos: But so that you may receive the full reward (8c)

B. How to discern and respond to false teachers (9-11)

1. How to discern if someone is a false teacher: (9)

- a **Neg: Every one who goes beyond and does not remain in the teaching of Christ does not have God (9a)**

Doctrine/theology is important

Beware of exploring uncharted theological territory

There is enough Bible to keep you busy for the next 100 lifetimes

You have no need to go elsewhere for your primary theological supply

(You may supplement, but keep the Scripture primary)

Beware of the temptation to be novel and fresh to catch an audience

Beware of those who call everything into question based on their experience or worst case scenarios

Beware of those whose final standard of judgment is anywhere but Scripture

There is only two possible final authorities – God speaking in Scripture or the self

- b **Pos: But the one remaining in the teaching, this one has both the Father and the Son (9b)**

2. Therefore: Don't receive the false teachers or you will partner with them (10-11)

- a **Don't receive or greet those who do not bring this teaching (10)**

1) **If: Someone comes and does not bring this teaching (10a-b)**

a) **If someone comes to you (10a)**

b) **And they do not carry this teaching (10b)**

2) **Then: Do not receive, don't even greet them (10c-d)**

a) **Do not receive them into the house (10c)**

b) **And do not say a greeting to them (10d)**

- b **Reason: Because the one who greets/welcomes him partners in his evil work (11)**

Beware of being lites on false teachers

Fight wolves, not sheep or goats

But don't let the people you influence be influenced by heretics