

# The Second Epistle of John

1:9

*In order to honor God truth & love together is the vital balance  
we must practice in daily living: truth in love and love bound in truth.*

A.D. 90-95

*False Teaching began to permeate the 1st century church by the following:*

**Judaizers:**

Gentiles who did not observe Jewish rituals could not be Christians.

**Docetics:**

denied the genuine humanity of Christ.

**False apostles:**

attacked Paul's credibility.

**Gnostics:**

blending Eastern mysticism with Greek dualism taught that the spirit is completely good, but matter is completely flesh.

**Know the Truth:  
(Introduction)**

**vv.1-3:**

The community of love that exists among those who know the truth.  
(vs.1):

Truth is both doctrine and knowing the person of Christ (vs. 2-3):.

**What did John mean by the truth?**

Verse 9 explains that truth is the teachings of Jesus Christ which includes O.T. revelation & all He taught through the apostles following His ascension

**John emphasized truth in 5 important ways:**

(vs. 1)

He based His own love on it;

(vs.1)

He based all the love of Christians on it;

(vs. 2)

He based the indwelling ministry of Christ on it;  
(cf. John 14:6)

(vs. 3)

He based grace, mercy, & peace on it;

(vs. 4)

He commended His readers for basing their lives on it..

**Practice the Truth:  
vv. 4-6:**

Exhortation to conduct one's life in the truth  
(vs.4):

Exhortation to authentically love one another  
(vs. 5)

Exhortation to prove our obedience to God by loving one another  
(vs. 6)

We are never to receive deceivers in such a way that we appear to be authenticating or accepting their teaching.

**Protect the Truth  
vv. 7-13:**

How to recognize false teachers:  
(vv.7-9)

*1. Deception regarding the person of Jesus Christ  
(vs.7)*

Exhortation not to lose eternal rewards  
(vs.8)

*2. Deception regarding the teachings of Jesus Christ  
(vs.9)*

How to deal with false teachers: avoid them.  
(vv.10-11):

Conclusion & Benediction  
(vv. 12-13):

*John's general purpose was to exhort believers to continue to walk in the truth of apostolic doctrine and in accordance with the commandments (vv. 4-6). Because "many deceivers have gone out into the world, people who do not confess Jesus as Christ coming in the flesh" (v. 7), John wrote this letter to protect us from the evil deception of those who refused to remain in the teaching of Christ, but were running beyond and away from the truth (v. 9). In keeping with this warning be resolved (1) not to lose rewards (2) nor support false teachers and their teachings. John is not telling believers to be rude or refuse to witness to them. Rather, Christians should never in any way support or endorse the false teachings of others. Love for God means supporting the truth and rejecting those who stand against it for divine love cannot exist apart from divine truth. Paul R. Shockley*