

# For the Sake of the Truth:

## 2 John 1 and 2

### 1. Love

“Those whom I love” “Not only I, but all those...”

a. Love is a defining mark of genuine discipleship

i. John 13:35

ii. I John 5:2-3

b. Love is used 4 x in this letter, 3x in 3 John, and 45x in I John

c. Who is the object of John's love?

"To the chosen Lady and her children, whom I love..."

d. What is Love?

## 2. Truth

a. Truth is the central theme of the letter

i. "Truth" is specifically referenced 5x

"In truth" (v 1)

"all those who have known the truth" (v 1)

"for the sake of the truth" (v 2)

"In truth and love" (v 3)

"walking in truth" (v 4)

ii. "Deceivers" are going out

iii. "Commandments"

iv. Abiding in the teaching (truth) of Christ (v 9)

b. John is writing "for the sake of the truth"

c. Truth forms the foundation of all godly behavior  
Love, like all godly behaviors, are subordinate to the truth

## **So how do we know what love is?**

1. From the truth we have been given:  
“whom I love in truth...”
2. From the example of the Apostles  
“whom I love in truth...”
3. From the example of God's true people  
“whom I love in truth; and not only I...”
4. From the example set by The Truth, Jesus

## **Do you want to love?**

You must be indwelled by the truth:  
“Because of the truth which abides in us”