

God's Fellowship (Series) **(2 John)**

Lesson # 7 “Don’t Lose Your Reward”

Scripture: 1 John 1:7 “but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.”

Introduction:

Lesson:

I. Walking in Truth

Verse 1a “The elder to the chosen lady and her children,...”

- A. The author is the Apostle John and he identifies himself as an elder
 - Presbuteros in the Greek having to do with age and wisdom
 - This is a strong call for these folks and us today to listen to a caring godly man

 - B. The recipient is the Chosen Lady and her children
 - She is not directly identified
 - But, the only chosen or elect lady in new testament would seem to be the Church.

 - Because the church is seen as the bride of Christ
 - Ephesians 5:22-23 “Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body.”*

 - And is directly declared the Bride in:
 - Revelation 21:9 “Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, “Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.”*
- *Never the less the message is the same

Verse 1b “...whom I love in truth; and not only I, but also all who know the truth,”

- A. When I think of the Apostle John I think of a loving older man

-Here he declares his love.....but says it is in truth!

B. The idea is that Real love exists only inside of the truth

-This would imply that there is such a thing as false love.

-So what is false love?The opposite of 1 Cor. 13: 4-7

- Not patient
- Not kind
- Jealous
- Goes about Bragging & is Arrogant
- It acts unbecomingly
- It is Self centered
- Easily angered
- It holds grudges
- Rejoices with unrighteousness

*Here is total of the matter

-False Love Does not:

- Bear all things
- Believe all things
- Hope all things
- Endure all things
- *i.e. it doesn't last!

-This false Love has destroyed the burning flame of many:

- Family relationships
- Marriages
- Friendships
- Churches

B. Real Love doesn't buddy up with anything false

-But, it "*rejoices with the truth*" 1 Cor 13:6

*It seeks out the truth

*And rejoices with it

C. And Real Love is the love that Jesus showed us on the Cross of Calvary

-John 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends."

-And this real love is what saves our souls.

Verse 2 "for the sake of the truth which abides in us and will be with us forever:"

A. In verse 1 John said he loved them inside the truth but now adds his love is through "DIA" the truth that dwells in us

B. What is the truth that dwells in us?

-John 14:6 “Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”

-The truth John is talking about here is specifically Jesus

C. And, the truth of Jesus will continue forever in our hearts through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

-The Holy Spirit is who dwells in us and is given to us at baptism (Acts 2:38)

-As a marker or down payment of our inheritance....Eph 1:14

Verse 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.”

A. Inside of Truth & Love

-Are:

-Grace.....Undeserved favor

-Mercy....Undeserved forgiveness

-Peace.....Rest for our souls

*Sign me up for that program!

Verse 4 “I was very glad to find some of your children walking in truth, just as we have received commandment to do from the Father.”

A. Walking or continuing in truth is a commandment from God.

-And demands obedience

*Not just to find the truth but, to move about and live in it.

Verses 5-6 “Now I ask you, lady, not as though I were writing to you a new commandment, but the one which we have had from the beginning, that we love one another. 6 And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it.

B. So John has mentioned three things.....

-Truth

-Love

-Obedience

*And they represent a whole unit.

-Take away any one of them and the whole falls apart

B. Out of these three things.....Love is understood to be the foundation

II. Concerning What is False

Verse 7,9 “For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist.

9 Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son.

A. Watch out for deceivers

-Don't believe in the Christ...Anti Christ'

-Intellectuals

-Those who run out ahead of the word of God

*Adding to and taking away from God's message

*Relying on the vain philosophies of men

B. Did you catch that they are many in number?

-I think nothing has changed from then until now.

Verse 8 “Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward.”

A. Don't lose what you have accomplished

-Don't go backwards

B. Protect your reward

-Or maintain it.....

Verse 10 “If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting; 11 for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds.”

A. In Protecting your reward:

#1. We are to Abide in God's word

#2. Send False Teachers away

B. Have you ever had someone knock on your door to talk with you about God?

-Most of us have.

-Have you invited them in for a study?

-Maybe a glass of water or tea?

C. Here John tells us to check people out before ever inviting them into our homes.

D. And not only that, if anyone brings a message that stands in contradiction to the Scriptures.

-Send them down the road

E. Seems a little harsh doesn't it?

-Its to protect our reward.

Verses 12-13 “Though I have many things to write to you, I do not want to do so with paper and ink; but I hope to come to you and speak face to face, so that your joy may be made full. 13 The children of your chosen sister greet you.”

Conclusion: