

II John 1:7-13

REVIEW...

- **The Author** – an IMPATIENT – TROUBLESOME man - who could not even catch a FISH...
 - But full of the HOLY Spirit – God made him into an APOSTLE and LEADER...
 - Who wrote FIVE books of the BIBLE – to tell EVERYONE about Jesus!
- **The Audience** – the ELECT Lady and her CHILDREN...
 - The LADY – refers to the CHURCH and the LEADERS [κύριος]
 - The CHILDREN – refers to the CHURCH and the BELIEVERS [τέκνον]
- **The Theme** – the book of **II John** is broken up into TWO sections...
 - **II John 1:1-6** – Walking in the TRUTH
 - **II John 1:7-13** – Walking away from DECEPTION
 - The way we know the difference between the TRUTH and DECEPTION...
 - Is by obeying the COMMAND to LOVE - **II John 1:5-6**
- **Walking in TRUTH...**
 - EVERYONE who KNOWS the TRUTH [Jesus] – LOVES the church...
 - Because the TRUTH abides in us – giving us GRACE – MERCY – and PEACE...
 - Allowing us to OBEY the COMMAND to LOVE one another!
 - **Ephesians 5:2** – “Walk in love - as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us.”

WALKING STRONG...

- **1st – BE ON GUARD... vs. 7-8**
 - **1st – DECEIVERS... vs. 7**
 - Many deceivers have gone into the world!
 - DECEIVERS [πλάνος] - where we get the word PLANET...
 - In contrast to being from GOD many have GONE out – who are WORDILY...
 - GONE out [εισέρχομαι] – can also be interpreted as POSSESSED!
 - **Luke 22:23** – “Then Satan entered [εισέρχομαι] Judas - surnamed Iscariot.”
 - The world has literally been POSSESSED by those who want to DECEIVE us!
 - Who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh!
 - What is the LIE the DECEIVERS spread – Jesus did NOT come in the FLESH...
 - They do not CONFESS [ὁμολογέω] – AGREE with the Gospel!
 - God became a man – came in the FLESH – He was IMMANUEL – **Isaiah 7:14**
 - Jesus came to do what no one else could – He lived a PERFECT life...
 - Then Jesus – the only SINLESS man – died to PAY the price for our SIN – **Romans 6:23**
 - Because they DENY what God did – IMMANUEL – they are a DECEIVERS!
 - We need to be VERY careful to EXAMINE what people say...
 - Someone might teach salvation through Jesus – but WHO is Jesus to them...
 - To the MORMONS – Jesus is a created being – the BROTHER of satan...
 - To the Jehovah Witnesses – Jesus is Michael the Archangel...
 - Unless someone CONFESSES Jesus is GOD - who came down to DIE for our sins...
 - Then they are NOT talking about the Jesus of the Bible – and that person is a DECEIVER!
 - **2nd – The ANTICHRIST... vs. 7**
 - This is a deceiver and an antichrist!
 - This is THE [ὁ] DECEIVER [πλάνος] – THE [ὁ] ANTICHRIST...
 - ANTICHRIST [ἀντίχριστος] – 5x in NT – **I John 2:18 – 2:22 – 4:3 – II John 1:7**

- The name means to be OPPOSED to the Christ – to be AGAINST Jesus...
- The definite article [THE] is before the word – meaning THE Antichrist...
- But this does not seem to refer to the MAN who will rule during the TRIBULATION...
- Instead this is talking about the DECEIVER that will be in that MAN!
- Since his FALL – satan has always been OPPOSED to God...
- He knew salvation would come through the SEED of the woman – **Genesis 3:15**
- So satan fills the WORLD with LIES – all with one PURPOSE...
- To BLIND people to the SALVATION that only comes through Jesus!
- **II Corinthians 4:4** – “The god of this age has blinded [those] who do not believe - lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ - who is the image of God - should shine on them.”
- o 3rd – Full REWARD... vs. 8
 - Look to yourselves - that we do not lose those things we worked for.
 - But that we may receive a full reward!
 - In light of the DECEPTION that has POSSESSED the world we live in – we MUST [imperative]
 - LOOK [βλέπω] – to FOCUS on intently – so we are NOT caught off GUARD...
 - We do NOT want to LOOSE [ἀπόλλυμι] – the word means DESTROYED [subjunctive]
 - All that we have WORKED [aorist] for – our full [πλήρης] REWARD...
 - REWARD [μισθός] – can also be translated as WAGES...
 - What does it mean to not LOSE our full REWARD – TWO thoughts!
 - LOSS of REWARDS...
 - All our WORK for the Lord on earth will be TESTED by FIRE - **I Corinthians 3:12-14**
 - Any selfish motive will be wood - hay - and stubble [burns up in the FIRE]
 - Any pure motive will be gold - silver - and jewels [does NOT burn]
 - Then at Bema seat of Christ - **II Corinthians 5:10**
 - We will receive REWARDS - for the good things done for the Lord...
 - We can then throw the REWARDS [crowns] at the feet of Jesus - **Revelation 4:10**
 - If we are NOT careful – we can be DECEIVED and loose REWARDS...
 - We can WASTE our TIME living for this life – rather than for Jesus...
 - As a RESULT – we will get to heaven – but not with FULL rewards...
 - We will not have as many CROWNS as we could have if we had lived for God!
 - LOSS of SALVATION...
 - Jesus gave a PARABLE about a DAYS wage – **Matthew 20:1-16**
 - Men were hired throughout the day to WORK in a vineyard – promised a DENARIUS...
 - When time came to give them their WAGE [μισθός] – **Matthew 20:8**
 - Those who WORKED all day complained – got the same as those who WORKED an hour...
 - But it did NOT matter how long they had WORKED – there was only one WAGE [μισθός]
 - **Matthew 20:16** – “For many are called - but few chosen [ἐκλεκτός].”
 - Our compete – and only - REWARD is our SALVATION...
 - And if we are NOT careful – we can be DECEIVED and not go on HEAVEN...
 - We can get so caught up in this LIFE – we can miss out on ETERNAL life...
 - Either way the verse is interpreted – the concern is REAL...
 - There is a CONSEQUENCE to being DECEIVED – so we need to be on GUARD!
 - How to be on GUARD...
 - Considering the IMPORTANCE of being on GUARD – not receiving the REWARD...
 - The question must be asked – how do we GUARD against DECEIVERS!
- 2ND – ABIDE IN JESUS... vs. 9-10
 - o 1st – Not ABIDING... vs. 9
 - Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God!

- ALL [πᾱς] who TRANSGRESS [παραβαίνω] – to STEP aside – go the WRONG way...
- What causes someone to go the WRONG way – TRANSGRESS...
- Not ABIDING [μένω] in the TEACHINGS of Christ – the WORD of God!
- If I asked you a SIMPLE question – what is ONE plus ONE – you would say TWO...
- But if you were to count in BINARY [computer language] – the answer would be TEN...
- If you do not believe me – type the question into GOOGLE!
- The point being TRUTH can be very CONFUSING...
- People can give us FACTS – that sound right – but are really WRONG...
- How can we know the TRUTH – so we are not DECEIVED by LIES...
- The best way to be on GUARD – and receive a full REWARD – is read our Bible...
- Not just occasionally – we need to ABIDE [cling daily] in the WORD...
- The Bible will keep us from TRANSGRESSING – but SIN will keep you from the Bible!
- **Psalm 119:11** - “Your word I have hidden in my heart... I might not sin against You!”
- Do NOT have God!
 - Those who do not ABIDE in the WORD – do NOT have God!
 - This would seem to suggest that the REWARD is SALVATION...
 - Because those who are NOT on GUARD – and are DECEIVED...
 - Can end up TRANSGRESSING – and going the WRONG way – back the WORLD...
 - And in the END it means they do NOT have a relationship with God!
- o 2nd – ABIDING in Christ... vs. 9
 - He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son!
 - If we ABIDE [μένω] in the TEACHINGS of Christ – the Word of God...
 - ABIDE [μένω] 120x in NT – a word that John REALLY liked – 68x in his FIVE books...
 - The Word means to CLING to something – and never let go
 - When we ABIDE [present] in the WORD – we have [present] the Father and the Son...
 - Because both will come and DWELL inside of us!
 - **John 14:23** – “If anyone... keep[s] My word... My Father will love him - and We will come to him and make Our home with him.”
 - I had a missionary friend who went to WORK in the Sudan...
 - He knew he was going into a WAR zone – and there were DANGERS...
 - But when he arrived – he was given a bullet proof jacket and helmet...
 - That is when it hit him just how DANGEROUS it was – and he CLUNG to his ARMOR!
 - It may not seem like it – but we go out EVERY day into a WAR...
 - We have an ENEMY who is out to DECEIVE us – wants to DESTROY us...
 - And we do NOT want to go into the BATTLE unprepared...
 - Therefore we get into the WORD daily – so we have a RELATIONSHIP with God...
 - So we have the Father and Son in us – to GUARD us – be our ARMOR...
 - To keep us SAFE from the ATTACK of our ADVERSARY!
 - **Romans 13:12-14** – “Let us put on the armor of light... put on the Lord Jesus Christ.”
- o 3rd – Not RECEIVING... vs. 10-11
 - If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine!
 - What do we do if someone comes – and does NOT bring the TEACHING of Christ...
 - This is NOT talking about people who do NOT know Jesus!
 - According to Pew research – only 31% of the world identifies as Christian...
 - Meaning at LEAST 69% of the world – does NOT know Jesus...
 - If we AVOIDED them – how could we ever share the Gospel to a LOST world!
 - This is talking about people – who come to DECEIVE with ANOTHER Gospel!
 - When we get a knock on the door from a MORMON – or JEHOVAH witness...

- When someone comes to DECEIVE – how do we REACT!

- Do not receive him into your house!

- Do NOT [imperative] let him into your HOUSE!
- This may seem VERY harsh – it does not seem to represent the LOVE of Jesus...
- If someone comes to our door – we are to REFUSE to let them come in...
- But make no mistake – this is for our SAFETY!
- I knew a woman who had attended church for years – SOLID Bible studies...
- You would think she was well grounded in the WORD – knew the TRUTH...
- But one day she came in to say she was going to start attending the MORMON church...
- Because they were so NICE – and had been so KIND to her – when she LET them IN!
- We would NOT play with a POISONOUS snake – they are DANGEROUS...
- Even if they SEEMED nice – we know at any moment they could STRIKE...
- That is DECEIVERS – they may look good on the outside – but they are there to DESTROY...
- And we want NOTHING to do with them – do NOT let them in!

- Nor greet him!

- Do NOT [imperative] even TALK [greet] him...
- GREET [χαίρω] – the VERB form of the word GRACE [χάρις]
- Meaning we are NOT to even to be GRACIOUS to these DECEIVERS...
- Because they are COMING preaching a DIFFERENT Gospel...
- And their WORDS are well crafted to cause DOUBT – make us WAIVER in our faith...
- Therefore we are to treat them as what they are – ACCURSED!
- **Galatians 1:8** – “If we - or an angel from heaven - preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you - let him be accursed.”

- For he who greets him shares in his evil deeds!

- Those who give GRACE [χαίρω] to DECEIVERS – end up SHARING in their EVIL works...
- SHARE [κοινωνέω] – to have FELLOWSHIP with!
- I have to admit – I have TALKED to these CULTS before – tried to share the GOSPEL...
- It has NEVER had any positive outcome – we might win the battle [words]
- But they are TRAINED in how to resist the WORD – and just walk away!
- The CONCERN is that we might build a RELATIONSHIP with them...
- Having them in our HOUSE – taking time to TALK to them...
- And that FELLOWSHIP will eventually have an effect on us...
- Little by little we might be DECEIVED by their false WORDS...
- And that could lead us to TRANSGRESS – walk away from the TRUTH!
- **I Corinthians 15:33** – “Do not be deceived: “Evil company corrupts good habits.”

- 3RD – FELLOWSHIP... vs. 12-13

- o 1st – Not just writing... vs. 12

- Having many things to write to you - I did not wish to do so with paper and ink!
- This was NOT the only thing John wanted to WRITE about...
- There were LOTS [πολύς] of other subjects he desired to go over...
- But he did not want to do it with INK and PAPER!
- We do NOT use ink and paper much anymore – we tend to use cell phone and computer...
- But I can relate to John – they are NOT the best way to communicate...
- EMAILS and TEXT lack emotion – intonation – and facial expression...
- They are OK for basic information – but they are no substitute for FELLOWSHIP!

- o 2nd – Face to Face... vs. 12

- I hope to come to you and speak face to face - that our joy may be full!
- John HOPED [ἐλπίζω] to come and speak – MOUTH to MOUTH...

- To have GOOD fellowship by TALKING with each other...
- Which would RESULT in their JOY [χαρά] being FULL [πληρώω]!
- When we have FELLOWSHIP [κοινωνέω] with others who are ABIDING in Jesus...
- The result will be – we will have a FULL [same root word as verse 8] REWARD...
- And that will give us JOY – because we are WALKING in the TRUTH...
- Because we help PROTECT one another from those who try to DECEIVE us...
- We are here to ENCOURAGE each other in our WALK!
- **Ecclesiastes 4:9-10** – “Two are better than one... if they fall - one will lift up his companion.”
- We NEED church...
 - There are those who argue – CHURCH is not necessary...
 - We can read our Bibles – worship – without other believers!
 - Going to CHURCH does not save us - but it does keep us from getting off track...
 - It is easy to do the wrong things and convince ourselves we are right...
 - That is why God call us to FELLOWSHIP with one another in CHURCH...
 - We help keep each other in check - keep our each other accountable to God!
- We NEED each other...
 - Redwood trees are the tallest in the world – over 120m...
 - Yet their roots are not very deep – they STAND – by being connected to one another!
 - We also do not STAND alone in the life - God has given us a HUGE family...
 - It is so important to have Godly brothers and sisters at our side!
 - **Hebrews 10:25** – “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together - as is the manner of some - but exhorting one another - and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”
- o 2nd – NOT alone... vs. 13
 - The children of your elect sister greet you. Amen!
 - As we mentioned last week – the CHILDREN [τέκνον] – likely refers to BELIEVERS...
 - So the BELIEVERS from the ELECT [ἐκλεκτός] sister – other CHURCHES...
 - GREET you [ἀσπάζομαι] – to welcome with a warm embrace!
 - Because we are NOT alone – we have a HUGE family who STANDS with us...
 - The Christian WALK – is NOT a lonely one – we have HELP...
 - The KEY is to stay in FELLOWSHIP with others who are ABIDING...
 - So we can EMBRACE one another – build each other up – until we receive our REWARD!