

“The Power of the *TRUTH*”
2 John 1:1-4

- What does the Apostle John mean by “*TRUTH*”?
 - God’s Word is the *TRUTH* (John 17:17-19) and the Holy Spirit’s testimony is the *TRUTH* (John 15:26; 1 John 5:6). All Scripture or *TRUTH* has been given to us by the Holy Spirit (2 Peter 1:20-21).
- How important is the *TRUTH*?
 - We wage spiritual warfare with/by the *TRUTH* (Ephesians 6:14 & 17); We are saved by the *TRUTH* (James 1:18); The *TRUTH* shows us how to live (1 John 3:18); We worship God according to the *TRUTH* (John 4:24); We are set free from our slavery to sin by the power of the *TRUTH* (John 4:24); We are sanctified by the *TRUTH* (John 17:17); We are guided by the *TRUTH* (Psalm 25:5); We pray according to the *TRUTH* (Psalm 145:18; 1 John 5:13-14).
- There were two main oppositions to the *TRUTH* in the New Testament....
 - Those who opposed the authority of the Apostles teaching.
 - Those who wanted to return to the practices of Judaism.

“In light of there always being opposition to truth, Christians should be committed to theology and doctrine and to a vigorous spiritual life according to the Word of God. This is how we love God and the truth.” (2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 & 2:10)

- “*The Elder*”: John using this term could point to a few different realities that all point to his authority. It could be pointing to John’s age, his affections for the church, or that he was the last living Apostle.
- “*The elect lady and her children*”: The “elect lady” is more than likely talking about the local church in which John is writing and “her children” are the individual members that make up the church (2 John 1:13).
- The power of the *TRUTH*:
 - (2 John 1:1): The *TRUTH UNITES* us in biblically defined love (1 John 5:1-3).
 - Knowing the truth and growing in that knowledge is what makes us grow in our love for Christ and treasure Him more deeply (Philippians 3:7-21).
 - (2 John 1:2): The *TRUTH INDWELLS* in the believer because of the Holy Spirit; leading us to fruitfulness (John 15:1-9; Galatians 5:22-24).
 - This indwelling truth, that is currently in part, will be fully known when we are with Christ in eternity (1 Corinthians 13:9-12).
 - (2 John 1:3): The *TRUTH SAVES* us by the work of Jesus Christ (Romans 10:17).
 - Grace is giving us what we don’t deserve, peace. Mercy is delivering us from what we do deserve, judgment and condemnation. The means of this work is Jesus Christ.
 - (2 John 1:4): The *TRUTH LEADS* us by the Holy Spirit to walk in accordance to God’s Word; this is evidence that we have been born again (John 14:15).
 - It is the Christians joy to walk in the *TRUTH* (John 15:11; 1 John 1:4) and it is the Christians joy to see others walking in the *TRUTH* (1 John 2:12-15).

Worship: God Omniscient, God All Knowing (Matt Boswell)

Be Thou My Vision (Norton Hall Band)