

Second and Third John

SECOND JOHN	85 AD
<u>"Many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world."</u> 7	
Author: John Written From: Ephesus Sent To: A church in Asia	
Purpose: <u>Keep believers in the truth so they have a full reward and provide instructions for rejecting traveling false teachers looking for a place to stay.</u>	
Theme: <u>Do not provide hospitality to false teachers.</u>	
Basic Outline: - Verses 4-6, <u>Command to love and definition of love</u> - Verses 7-11, <u>Identify false teachers and command Christians to not support them</u> - Verses 12-13, John says he <u>will visit them and cover more information</u> concerning this issue	
Memorable Verses: "This is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands." 6 "Many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist." 7 "Watch out that you do not lose what you have worked for, but that you may be rewarded fully." 8 "If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take him into your house or welcome him." 10	
Greek Words: - ἄντιχριστός – <i>antichristos</i> – antichrist, an opponent of the Christ or Messiah, 7. - μισθός – <i>misthos</i> – payment for labor, reward, wages, refers to the workman's wages, 8. - κοινωνέω – <i>koinoneo</i> – fellowship, communicate, distribute, be partaker, 11.	
Healthy Doctrine: - Christian Fellowship - Identification of false doctrine and false teachers	

In verses 4-6 John expresses his joy that some of the believers are walking in the truth as commanded by God the Father. He then tells them to love one another, calling it a command they have had from the beginning. False teachers were providing new revelation and new commands. John refrains from this and sticks to the basics. He then describes love as walking in obedience to God's commands. John ties correct doctrine and correct behavior together.

In verses 7-11 John quickly gets to his main point which is to warn against false teachers who are traveling through the cities and churches in Asia. These false teachers were an early form of Gnosticism which included the false doctrine that Jesus Christ had not come in the flesh. These traveling teachers would stay in the homes of people and be sent to the next town with provisions. John tells the believers not to support or help them and to avoid their false teaching. The false teaching could cause believers to lose their rewards because bad doctrine leads to bad performance.

In verses 12-13 John says he has more to say but he wants to teach them face to face and not with paper and ink. John is planning on doing some traveling and teaching in Asia himself.

THIRD JOHN	85 AD
<i>"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." 4</i>	
Author: John	
Written From: Ephesus	
Sent To: A church leader in Asia whose pastor was rejecting John's traveling teachers	
Purpose: A personal letter from John to Gaius to thank him for supporting the true teachers John sent. John also condemns Diotrephes for not accepting true teachers. Five purposes are found in this personal letter:	
1. To commend Gaius 2. To instruct and encourage Gaius' support of the men John sent 3. To rebuke Diotrephes 4. To give instruction for Demetrius 5. To inform Gaius of John's plans to visit and deal with Diotrephes	
Theme: Hospitality and support for traveling Christian teachers	
Basic Outline:	
• Verses 1-2, official salutation • Verses 3-8, commend Gaius for walking in the truth, helping others to walk in the truth and for supporting the men John sent to travel and to teach • Verses 9-10, condemn Diotrephes for rejecting John, gossiping about John, refusing to welcome John's teachers and preventing others from assisting John's traveling teachers • Verses 11-12, a recommendation for one of John's traveling men, Demetrius, who is probably carrying this letter • Verse 13, John's desire to say more and his plan to visit face to face	

People Mentioned in Third John	
Gaius	– a church member in a leadership position of his local church in Asia
Demetrius	– a traveling teacher sent by John to Gaius' local church with this letter and to speak and teach in the local church
Diotrephes	– a man who has taken the leadership or pastorate position of this local church. He has rejected John, John's apostolic doctrine, and representatives sent by John to teach. He is also actively maligning John with false accusations.
John	– is the apostle that is sending out men to teach the apostolic doctrine and to help keep the local churches in Asia in the truth.

Memorable Verses:

- “I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you; even as your soul is getting along well.” 2
- “I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.” 4
- “You will do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God.” 6
- “I wrote to the church, but Diotrefes, who loves to be first, will have nothing to do with us. So if I come, I will call attention to what he is doing, gossiping maliciously about us.” 9, 10

Greek Words:

- ἑυδοῶ - *euodoo* – to be led along a good road, to prosper, to get along well, to succeed, 2.
- ἐκκλησίας - *ekklesias* – assembly, church. From ἐκ *ek* meaning “out of” and κλησις *klesis* “a calling” (from καλεῶ *kaleo* “to call”). It was used by Greeks to refer to a group of citizens called from the general public to a gathering to discuss the affairs of their government, 6.
- φιλοπρωτευων - *philoproteuon* - to be fond of the first position, to wish to be first, to like to be the leader, loves to be first, 9.
- φλυαρεω - *phluareo* - to talk nonsense, to speak silliness, to bring unjust charges against someone. This word stresses the emptiness of what was said, 10.

Healthy Doctrine:

- Teaching
- Support of Ministry Work

Second John and Third John Introduction

Purpose: warn readers about certain traveling teachers who were deceivers and false.

Not only were the readers not to follow these false teachers, they were not to welcome them.

Welcoming these false teachers would be the equivalent of sharing in their wicked work.

Then, the readers are told to love each other.

It is possible that the reason 2 and 3 John were preserved in the text of Scripture is that they were part of a package of documents from John that were sent together at the same time. In this senerio:

1. 3 John is a recommendation letter TO GAIUS commending DEMETRIUS THE CARRIER of the package of letters FROM JOHN.
2. 2 John would have been a letter READ ALOUD TO GAIUS and his CHURCH.
3. 1 John would have been a written sermon, not a letter, sent from John to exhort the church of Gaius and other local churches.
3. “the chosen lady” – *eklekte kyria* -
 - a. *Eklekte* – means “select”, “favorite”, “chosen out”, “elect”, “choice”
 - b. *Kuria* – is feminine of *kurios* which means “lord, master”, thus it is translated “lady”
 - c. Five possible interpretations:
 - i. “the lady Electra” which would be a woman name Electra.
 - ii. “the noble Kyria” which would be a woman named Kyria who was identified as noble.
 - iii. “dear lady” which would be a courteous way of addressing the woman receiving this letter.
 - iv. A way of addressing the church universal,
 - v. A metaphor for the local church being addressed that is wrapped up in a metaphorical address which includes:
 1. The local church = *eklekte kyria*, “the chosen lady”
 2. The members of the church = *teknois autes*, “her children”
 3. 1:13 – the children of your chosen sister

EXHORTATION	WARNING
Those who walk in truth (4)	Those who reject truth or Christ in flesh (7)
The command received in the beginning (5, 6)	Teaching that adds on the Truth (9)
Work to be rewarded (8)	Wicked works of false teachers (11)
Those who continue in Christ (9)	Those who do not continue in Christ (9)
Those who refuse to welcome false teachers (10-11)	Those who welcome false teachers (10-11)

2 John 7 – “For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist.”

3754 [e]	4183 [e]	4108 [e]	1831 [e]	1519 [e]	3588 [e]	2889 [e]	3588 [e]	3361 [e]	3670 [e]	2424 [e]
Hoti	polloi	planoi	exēlthon	eis	ton	kosmon	hoi	mē	homologountes	Iēsoun
7 Ὅτι	πολλοὶ	πλάνοι	ἐξῆλθον	εἰς	τὸν	κόσμον	, οἱ	μὴ	ὁμολογοῦντες	Ἰησοῦν
For	many	deceivers	have entered	into	the	world	those	not	confessing	Jesus
Conj	Adj-NMP	Adj-NMP	V-AIA-3P	Prep	Art-AMS	N-AMS	Art-NMP	Adv	V-PPA-NMP	N-AMS

5547 [e]	2064 [e]	1722 [e]	4561 [e]	3778 [e]	1510 [e]	3588 [e]	4108 [e]	2532 [e]	3588 [e]	500 [e]
Christon	erchomenon	en	sarki	houtos	estin	ho	planos	kai	ho	antichristos
Χριστὸν	ἐρχόμενον	ἐν	σαρκί	· οὗτός	ἐστίν	ὁ	πλάνος	καὶ	ὁ	ἀντίχριστος
Christ	coming	in	flesh	This	is	the	deceiver	and	the	antichrist
N-AMS	V-PPM/P-AMS	Prep	N-DFS	DPro-NMS	V-PIA-3S	Art-NMS	Adj-NMS	Conj	Art-NMS	N-NMS

1. This new section begins in the Greek with “for” or “because” meaning verse 7 is written as an explanation of why the previous advice of 4-6 was given.
2. “coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh” is present tense. Literally : “Jesus Christ coming in flesh”
 - a. 1 John 4:2 – “Jesus Christ has come in the flesh.” A historical reality.
 - b. Here John is focusing on the abiding reality of Jesus' being human. An abiding reality.
 - c. ...and, Jesus is going to return in the flesh.
3. “Gone into the world” seems to indicate the missionary work of the false teachers attempting to fulfill the Great Commission on their own terms: “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15; Luke 14:23; Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:7-8)