

II JOHN

CHAPTER ONE

1) [This is being written by] **the elder to the lady chosen** [by God], **and to her children** [Note: The terms *Alady@* and *Achildren@* here refer to a congregation and the Christians who belong to it. See I Peter 5:13; II John 13], **whom I love in the truth.** [Note: This phrase probably means *Awhom I truly love@*. **And I am not the only one** [to love you], **but all those** [other congregations] **who know the truth** [of God], **also love you.** 2) [We all love you] **because of the truth which continues to live in our hearts and will be with us forever.** 3) **Unearned favor, mercy and peace will be with us from God, the Father, and from Jesus Christ, the Father-s Son, in truth and love** [i.e., truth and love will accompany the other blessings].

4) **I was very happy when I learned that my children** [i.e., members of the congregation there] **are living in** [harmony with the] **truth, just as we have been commanded to do by the Father.** 5) **And now I ask you, lady** [See verse 1], **not as though writing a new commandment to you, but** [I wanted to remind you of] **one that we had** [heard] **from the beginning** [of Christ-s ministry]: [It is] **that we should love one another.** 6) **And this is** [the true meaning of] **love: That we should live in obedience to God-s commandments. And this is the commandment, just as you heard from the beginning, that you should live in it** [i.e., live a life of love].

7) **For many deceivers have begun circulating in the world; they are those who do not confess that Jesus Christ has come** [to earth] **in a physical body. Such a person is the deceiver and the antichrist** [See I John 2:18f]. 8) **Pay close attention to yourselves, so that you do not lose what we** [Note: Some Greek manuscripts say *Ayou@*] **worked for** [i.e., the spiritual blessings you have acquired], **but** [continue faithful] **so that you will receive a full reward.** [See Luke 12:47-48; James 3:1; Matt. 20:1-15]. 9) **Every person who does not continue to follow the teaching of Christ, but goes beyond it, does not have God** [in his life]. [But], **the person who continues to follow in the teaching** [of Christ] **has both the Father and the Son** [in his life]. 10) **If anyone comes to you** [i.e., to your meetings] **who does not bring this teaching** [about Christ], **you should not welcome him into**

your home or give him [any] **greetings** [i.e., suggesting approval or endorsement]. **11) For the person who greets him** [with approval] **participates in his evil deeds** [i.e., in his false teaching].

12) I have many [more] **things to write to you about, but will not do so with paper and ink, since I hope to visit you** [soon] **and speak to you in person, so that our joy may be complete.**

13) The children [i.e., members] **of your chosen sister** [church] **send you their greetings.** [See verse 1].