

# THE SECOND LETTER OF JOHN

## *Greeting*

<sup>1</sup>From the Elder, to the chosen Lady and her children, whom I truly love.<sup>a</sup> And it's not just me that loves you—so does everybody who knows the truth. <sup>2</sup>Because the truth has stayed with us,<sup>b</sup> and it's going to be with us forever. <sup>3</sup>Grace, mercy, and peace are going to be with us in the presence of God our Father and in the presence of<sup>d</sup> our Father's Son, Jesus Christ,<sup>e</sup> in truth and love.

## *Truth and Love*

<sup>4</sup>I was overjoyed to discover that some of your children are living<sup>f</sup> in the truth, in line with the command we've received from the Father. <sup>5</sup>And now, Lady, I'm asking you. It's not as though I'm writing a new command. Far from it—it's the one that we've had from the beginning; that we should love one another. <sup>6</sup>And this is what love is: living<sup>g</sup> in line with God's commands. This is exactly the command that you've heard from the beginning, that you're supposed to live<sup>h</sup> in line with. <sup>7</sup>Because lots of deceivers have gone out into the world—who don't acknowledge the physical nature of Jesus Christ's coming.<sup>i</sup> That's the deceiver and the antichrist.<sup>j</sup> <sup>8</sup>Watch out for yourselves, so that you don't lose what you've achieved, and you get your full reward.<sup>k</sup> <sup>9</sup>Everybody that goes off ahead, and doesn't stay with the teaching of Christ, doesn't have God. The person that stays with the teaching has both the Father and the Son. <sup>10</sup>If somebody comes to you and doesn't bring this teaching, don't let them into your house, and don't say hello to them. <sup>11</sup>Because the person that says hello to them joins in their evil activities.

## *Final Words*

<sup>12</sup>I have a lot of things to write to you, but I'd rather not do it through paper and ink. Instead, I'm hoping to be with you and to talk face to face.<sup>l</sup> That way, our joy can be complete.

<sup>13</sup>The children of your sister community say hello to you.

<sup>a</sup> Lit. "whom I love in truth".

<sup>b</sup> Lit. "And not I alone, but also all who know the truth, because of the truth that has stayed with us".

<sup>c</sup> Or "from".

<sup>d</sup> Or "from".

<sup>e</sup> Some mss have, "from the Lord Jesus Christ".

<sup>f</sup> Lit. "walking".

<sup>g</sup> Lit. "to walk".

<sup>h</sup> Lit. "walk".

<sup>i</sup> Lit. "who don't acknowledge Jesus Christ coming in the flesh".

<sup>j</sup> See "Bible Words".

<sup>k</sup> Some mss have, "we don't lose what we've achieved" and "we get our full reward".

<sup>l</sup> Lit. "mouth to mouth".