

Strong families are built by avoiding religious error – 2 John 1:7-11: Christian families are constantly pressured to compromise with the world; but we cannot do so. We cannot give hospitality to or encourage false teachers in any way. False teaching leads to the collapse of families and to spiritual weakness within families. False doctrine will deceive you and cause you to lose your relationship with God. John wrote, “If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed.” (2 John 1:10) Families must constantly be aware of the surrounding threat of false doctrine. It is a serious and grievous loss if any member of any of our family is led astray by false teaching. Families must be continually watchful and on guard to be sure that we stand with truth and truth alone. Christian fathers and mothers must do the best they can to fortify the faith of their children. Do not have fellowship with false teachers. Do not give your approval to things that are not in harmony with the will of God. “This is love, that we walk after his commandments.” (2 John 1:6) Remember, what life is all about is obtaining that eternal reward. “Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward.” (2 John 1:8) When we abide in the teachings of Christ we have both the Father and the Son. We must give all diligence to abide in the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ. It should be the passion of our soul, to love God, keep His commandments and get our family to heaven when this life is over. False teachers are at work; the devil is using them to lead people to eternal destruction. God said, “If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.” (2 John 1:10-11) In matters of opinion, we must show much liberty and love for our brethren. In matters of truth we must always be firm, loving, convicted and uncompromising.

A double blessing for this family -- 2 John 1:12-13: It was a wonderful blessing that even when John could not personally visit the elect lady he could communicate with her through writing. The value of the written word is that it may be preserved. This letter was inspired by God and has been preserved as a blessing for us also! A double blessing was in store for this family if John was able to follow through on his desire. He said, “Having many things to write unto you, I would not write with paper and ink: but I trust to come unto you, and speak face to face, that our joy may be full. The children of thy elect sister greet thee. Amen.” (2 John 1:12-13) John’s heart was filled with things that related to salvation in service to our mighty God; so much so that he could not take the time to write those things but he would speak to them face-to-face. John longed for the fellowship of this faithful Christian family.

Jesus loved us and died for our sins. He was buried, and He arose again the third day. (1 Corinthians 15:1-4) We must truly believe in Jesus! (John 6:69) Godly sorrow over our past sins must lead us to repentance. (2 Corinthians 7:10) If we sincerely believe in Jesus and repent of past sins, we must make the good confession that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. (Acts 8:37) If we are a true believer, we must submit ourselves to the Lord in the simple act of baptism. No person receives pardon or forgiveness of sins before baptism. We are baptized for forgiveness of sins. “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. (Acts 2:38) Seek the Lord, in truth, in order to have eternal life in heaven!

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