

Truth and Love

August 25, 2024

I. Background Material

A. Some Trivia

1. The shortest book in the New Testament and the Bible
 - a. 13 verses, 298 words
 - b. III John second shortest
 - c. Obadiah shortest book in the Old Testament
2. The only book addressed to a woman

B. Author and Date

1. Traditionally excepted as John
2. 90 A.D.

C. Theme

1. I John: Fellowship: its nature and place
2. II John: Fellowship: its limits
3. III John: Fellowship: its extent

D. Outline

1. Introduction – vs. 1-3
2. Exhortation – vs. 4-6
3. Warning – vs. 7-11
4. Conclusion – vs. 12, 13

II. Introduction – vs. 1-3

A. The author and recipients – v. 1a

1. The Elder
 - a. I Timothy 5:1, 2; I Peter 5:5; III John 1
2. The chosen lady
 - a. An unnamed local church in Asia
 - b. Anonymous influential woman in one of the Asia churches. She most likely provided housing for John and other traveling teachers.
 - i. Paul: Lydia in Philippi; Jason in Thessalonica; Gaius in Corinth; Philip in Caesarea; Mnason in Jerusalem

B. Identification of the word "truth" – vs. 1b-2

1. Used five times in the first four verses (love used 4 times)
2. The son: The living word John 14: 6

3. The Bible: The written word John 17:17

C. The Greeting – v. 3

1. Among Jews: Shalom "peace"
 - a. Luke 10:5
2. Among Greeks: Chairein "to rejoice"
 - a. James 1:1
3. Among Christians: "Grace and Peace"
 - a. Romans 1:7; I Corinthians; 1 Peter 1:2
4. In the Pastoral Epistles: Grace, Mercy and Peace
 - a. I Timothy 1; 2; II Timothy 1: 2; Titus 1:4
5. Grace: God giving me what I do not deserve
Mercy: God withholding from me what I do deserve
Peace: What I have as a result of God 's grace and mercy

III. Exhortation to Love vs. 4-6

A. Commendation – v. 4

1. "Walking in Truth"
 - a. III John 3, 4; 1 John 1:7
2. Commanded by the Father
 - a. Hosea 11:10; Micah 4: 5, 6: 8
 - b. Romans 6:4; Galatians 5:16, 6:16; Ephesians 5: 2, 8

B. Love Urged "and now I ask you . . ." – v. 5

1. Romans 13:8
2. I Peter 4:8

C. Love Explained – v. 6

1. Romans 13:10

D. John 14:15