



Truth Matters... So Look Out for the Truth! Part 2

Lesson 8 • 2 John 10-11

How Do God's Elect People Look Out for the Truth?

By Protecting One Another from False TEACHING (7-9) and False TEACHERS (10-11).

Two Warnings About Rejecting False Teachers

1. ANYONE can be a false teacher!

- **ANYONE** who **goes too far** and does not ABIDE in the teaching of Christ. (v. 9)
 - 1) Teaching **FROM Christ** and his apostles. (1John 4:1-6)
 - 2) Teaching **ABOUT Christ** and the gospel. (1John 2:18-25)
- **ANYONE** who **comes to you** and does not BRING this teaching, do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting. (v. 10)

2. Not EVERYONE who teaches error is a false teacher!

- Learn to discern the differences in the DEGREES of error. (See Chart)
- Learn to develop your UNDERSTANDING of gospel essentials and sound doctrine. (1Timothy 6:3)
 - 1) Just because someone **disagrees** with you does not make them a false teacher.
 - 2) Just because someone teaches something you were **never** taught or were **always** taught was wrong, does not make what they are teaching false or them a false teacher.

Three Ways We as God's Elect People Protect One Another from False Teachers

1. RESIST their false teaching.

"Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward. Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son." 2John 8-9

- RESIST the temptation to go beyond the teaching **from** and **about** Jesus Christ in search of salvation, sanctification, and future glorification.

- **REMAIN** within the bounds of the teaching **from** and **about** Jesus Christ in both your belief and behavior.

2. **REJECT** the false teacher.

"If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive them into your house, and do not give them a greeting." 2John 10

Three Aspects to This Kind of Rejection

- Refuse to **ACCEPT** them into the Church-Home.
"do not receive them into your house"

- Refuse to **ASSIST** them in their ministry.
"do not receive them...and do not give them a greeting."

- Refuse to **ACKNOWLEDGE** them as members in God's family.
"do not give them a greeting."

Do not recognize the unbelieving as believers, Do not acknowledge as family those who refuse to acknowledge the Father and His Son according to the essentials of the gospel!

- 1) Paul recognized different levels of fellowship, separation, and rejection. *2Thessalonians 3:14-15; 1Corinthians 5:9-11*
- 2) Jesus Himself taught us to judge false teachers by their fruit. *Matthew 7:12-23*
- 3) We should always seek to **love in the truth** and **according to the truth**, but **never ever at the expense of the truth**.
2John 1-6; Jude 17-25

3. **REMEMBER** what's at stake when it comes to false teachers and their teaching.

"for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds." 2John 11

What's at Stake When It Comes to Protecting One Another from False Teachers and Their False Teaching?

- Rewards are **LOST** by **true believers** and **churches** who **fail** to resist false teaching. (v. 8)
- Salvation is **MISSED** by **anyone** who goes **beyond** the bounds of the gospel and **fails** to abide in the teachings of Christ. (v. 9)
- Evil is **PROMOTED** by **anyone** who **welcomes** false teachers as true teachers and **partners** in spreading their false teaching. (v. 11; 3John 5-8)

BE INHOSPITABLE to ERROR by REJECTING FALSE TEACHERS!

RESIST their false teaching, **REJECT** them by **REFUSING** to help them spread their influence and promote their ministry, and always **REMEMBER** what's at stake!