



John planted churches in modern-day Turkey



False teachers arose and led people astray



John wrote to counter the false teaching and comfort the faithful remnant of the church

Biblical Nature of Truth and Love



The elder to the elect lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all who know the truth, because of the truth that abides in us and will be with us forever: Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love. (2 John 1-3)

The elder to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth. Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul. For I rejoiced greatly when the brothers came and testified to your truth, as indeed you are walking in the truth. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth. (3 John 1-4)

Biblical Nature of Truth and Love



Truth
&
Love

Biblical Nature of Truth and Love



Truth as the Father's commands:

I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as we were commanded by the Father. And now I ask you, dear lady—not as though I were writing you a new commandment, but the one we have had from the beginning—that we love one another. And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments; this is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, so that you should walk in it. (2 John 4-6)

Biblical Nature of Truth and Love



Truth as Christ's teachings:

Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God. Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house or give him any greeting, for whoever greets him takes part in his wicked works. (2 John 9-11)

Biblical Nature of Truth and Love



Loving in and because of the truth:

The elder to the elect lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all who know the truth, because of the truth that abides in us and will be with us forever: Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love. (2 John 1-3)

The elder to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth. (3 John 1)

Biblical Nature of Truth and Love



Loving in and because of the truth:

And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments... (2 John 6)

By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. (1 John 5:2-3)

Two Strategies for Staying the Course



For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist. (2 John 7)

Two Strategies for Staying the Course



Walk in Truth:

I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as we were commanded by the Father. (2 John 4)

And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments; this is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, so that you should walk in it. (2 John 6)

For I rejoiced greatly when the brothers came and testified to your truth, as indeed you are walking in the truth. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth. (3 John 3-4)

Two Strategies for Staying the Course



Walk in Truth:

“Discernment is not knowing the difference between right and wrong. It is knowing the difference between right and almost right.”

-Charles Spurgeon

“Every age has had its darkness and its dangers. The task of the Christians is not to whine about the moment in which he or she lives but to understand its problems and respond appropriately to them.”

-Carl Trueman

Two Strategies for Staying the Course



Watch Yourself

Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward...If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house or give him any greeting... (2 John 8, 10)

Beloved, do not imitate evil but imitate good. (3 John 11)

Two Strategies for Staying the Course



Watch Yourself

Who do you give influence in your life?