

Adult Bible Study Class 5/9/10

Session 173

The teachings of the Epistles (cont'd)

19. 2 John

a. Read 2 John, chapter 1.

v 1 "The elder": The writer refers to himself as "the elder", suggesting that he was the older Christian and that his personal knowledge of the faith went back much further than theirs. "the elect lady": "the elect lady and her children" indicating that the recipient was a hospitable Christian mother whose children persevere in the faith.

v2 The possession of a permanent truth is the chief reason to remain faithful and not to be led astray.

v 5 In one sense the command to "love" is old, because the Law of Moses demands it; in another sense it is "new", because the example of Christ provides a new standard and a new motive.

v 6 "love" motivates obedience.

v 7 "Deceivers": False teachers, probably from the same group that is the subject of 1 John, were confusing the fellowship of believers. John therefore gave instructions concerning which itinerant teachers to welcome and which to refuse.

v 9 The false teachers claimed superior knowledge that contradicted apostolic doctrine. In reality they had severed their relationship to God.

v 10,11 Giving hospitality to the false teachers indicates sympathy with and support for their evil teachings. John does not forbid common courtesy, but he does prohibit action that will encourage the heretics in their work.

Please read Psalm 52

Memory verse: Col. 3:5

God bless you

Ron