

THE SECOND LETTER OF JOHN

¹The Elder, to the beloved lady and to her children, whom I love in the truth, and not only I but all that know the truth, ²for the sake of the truth which dwells in us, and shall be with us for ever;

³Grace, mercy and peace shall be with us from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

⁴I *was very happy to find some of your children living in the truth, as we received commandment from the Father. ⁵And now I beg you, lady, not as though I were writing to you a new commandment—it is a commandment that we have had from the beginning—that we should love one another. ⁶And this is love, that we should live according to his commandments; and the commandment is, that you should live in love, as you have heard from the beginning.

⁷For many deceivers have gone out into the world, men who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. That is the deceiver, and the *antichrist. ⁸Keep watch over yourselves, that you may not lose what you have worked for, but be paid full wages. ⁹Anyone that runs ahead, instead of dwelling in the teaching of the Christ, does not possess God. The man that dwells in the teaching, possesses both the Father and the Son. ¹⁰If anyone comes to you, and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house, do not even greet him; ¹¹for anyone that greets him, shares in his wicked deeds.

¹²I have much to write, but I do not wish to write it to you with paper and ink; I hope to visit you myself and speak to you face to face, so that *your happiness may be complete.

¹³The children of your beloved sister send you their greetings.