

P.T. BIBLE SURVEY

The Second and Third Epistles of John

THE BOOKS OF 2 AND 3 JOHN

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- ◉ Both 2 and 3 John reflect similar circumstances. In each book the author warns against the divisiveness of false teachers, and encourages genuine believers.
- ◉ Who wrote it?
 - Not stated, but the apostle John is widely accepted as the author of both books. In both books the author identifies himself as “the Elder”.

THE BOOKS OF 2 AND 3 JOHN

- ◉ Date of writing:

- Around A.D. 90.

- ◉ Surrounding Circumstances:

- 2 John is writing to an “elect lady” to advise her about a heresy and urge her to continue in Christian love.

THE BOOKS OF 2 AND 3 JOHN

- ◉ Date of writing:

- Around A.D. 90.

- ◉ Surrounding Circumstances:

- 2 John is writing to an “elect lady” to advise her about a heresy and urge her to continue in Christian love.
- 3 John was written to a friend named Gaius; commending him for his practice of showing hospitality for the sake of the gospel. Both were written from Ephesus.

THE BOOKS OF 2 AND 3 JOHN

◉ Key Term 2 John: **Faithful**

- Although the word faithful does not appear, this letter is in essence an encouragement to remain faithful to the truth of the gospel in the face of deceivers.

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◎ Key Term 3 John: Truth

- The word “truth” is used six times. Christians are called on to be committed to the truth and to show hospitality to Christian leaders involved in ministering the truth.

2 AND 3 JOHN

Overview of the Acts of the Apostles



OUTLINE OF 2 JOHN

I. Abide in God's Commandments (1-6)

- Salutation (1-3)
- Walk in Truth (4)
- Walk in Love (5, 6)

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I. Abide in God's Commandments (1-6)

- Salutation (1-3)
- Walk in Truth (4)
- Walk in Love (5, 6)

II. Abide Not with False Teachers (7-13)

- Doctrine of the False Teachers (7-9)
- Avoid the False Teachers (10, 11)
- Benediction (12, 13)

OUTLINE OF 3 JOHN

I. The Commendation of Gaius (1-8)

- Salutation (1)
- Godliness of Gaius (2-4)
- Generosity of Gaius (5-8)

THE BOOKS OF 2 AND 3 JOHN

2 John

- ◎ Summary in one sentence:
 - Those who are faithful to “Christ’s teaching” know the Father and the son and will one day be fully rewarded.

THE BOOKS OF 2 AND 3 JOHN

2 John

- ◎ Summary in one sentence:
 - Those who are faithful to “Christ’s teaching” know the Father and the son and will one day be fully rewarded.
- ◎ Summary in 10 words or less:
 - Beware false teachers who deny Jesus’ physical life on earth.

THE BOOKS OF 2 AND 3 JOHN

3 John

◎ Summary in one sentence:

- Christians are to recognize and to work for the truth of the gospel, and one way they do this is to show hospitality to Christian ministers that are hard at work.

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3 John

◎ Summary in one sentence:

- Christians are to recognize and to work for the truth of the gospel, and one way they do this is to show hospitality to Christian ministers that are hard at work.

◎ Summary in 10 words or less:

- Church leaders must be humble, not proud.

THE BOOKS OF 2 AND 3 JOHN

- ◎ Cast of Characters - 2 and 3 John:
 - John: calls himself “The Elder”
 - The Elect Lady and her children: she and her children are loved by many
 - The children of the chosen sister: perhaps members of the church John writes from
 - Gaius: friend whom John writes to in 3 John
 - The Name: Jesus; the faithful spread His news despite pagan opposition

THE BOOKS OF 2 AND 3 JOHN

- ◎ Cast of Characters - 2 and 3 John:
 - **Diotrephes:** a church member who wants nothing to do with the true gospel
 - **Demetrius:** spoken of highly, even by “the truth itself”

THE BOOKS OF 2 AND 3 JOHN

Verses to Remember

“Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward.”

(2 John 1:8)

“Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers.”

(3 John 1:2)

THE BOOKS OF 2 AND 3 JOHN

◉ Interesting Facts:

- 2 and 3 John are two of five one chapter books in the Bible. The others are Obadiah, Philemon, and Jude.
- In 2 John, John writes about: truth and love, obedience, Antichrist, warnings against false teachers, and abiding in God's commandments
- 3 John is the shortest book in the Bible.

THE BOOKS OF 2 AND 3 JOHN

◉ Home Study

- Read the book of Jude this week.
- Review your One-Sentence Summaries.
- Recite your memory verses.