

THE SECOND EPISTLE OF JOHN.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE EPISTLE AS A WHOLE.

1—3.	ELECT LADY AND CHILDREN: BENEDICTION
4—6.	CHILDREN WALKING ACCORDING TO THE FATHERS COMMANDMENT.
7—8.	WARNING AGAINST DECEIVERS.
9—11.	TRANSGRESSORS REJECTING CHRIST'S TEACHING.
12, 13.	JOY FULFILLED: CHILDREN OF THE ELECT SISTER. SALUTATION.

THE SECOND AND THIRD EPISTLE OF JOHN NOTES.

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NOTES.

The likeness of these two epistles indicates that both were by one writer, and in each case the internal evidence supports the traditional belief that both were written by the apostle John. Several of the early "fathers" quote the Second Epistle, certain passages of which so closely resemble parts of the First Epistle as to confirm the view of its being by the same writer.

The Second Epistle is addressed "unto the elect lady and her children", and some have understood a certain church and its members Alford, however, gives good grounds for believing that an individual is meant.

The Third Epistle is to "Gaius the beloved", a notable believer. The name was a common one, and the bearer may not be of those mentioned in *Acts*, &c.

The probability is that both epistles were written from Ephesus and about the same time, but nothing is known definitely as to either place or time of writing.

The reader will readily see the Structure of these two short epistles. Each takes the form of an *Introversion*, the intermediate members marking exhortation and warning. The Third Epistle contains a personal element, commendation of Gaius and Demetrius, and condemnation of Diotrephes.

THE SECOND EPISTLE OF JOHN.

1 THE ^oelder *to* the ^oelect ^olady and her ^ochildren, whom I ^olove in ...^otruth; and not I only, but *all they also* that have ^oknown ^otruth;

2 *On account of the* ¹truth, which *abideth* in us, and shall be with us ^ofor ever.

3 ^oGrace *shall be* with you, ^omercy, and peace, ^ofrom ^oGod the ^oFather, and from ...^oJesus Christ, the ^oSon of the Father, in ¹truth and ^olove.

4 I ^orejoiced ^ogreatly that I found ^oof thy ¹children walking in ¹truth, as we ... received a commandment from the ³Father.

5 And now I *ask* thee, ¹lady, not as though I wrote a ^onew commandment ¹to thee, but that which we had ^ofrom the beginning, *in order that* we ¹love one another.

6 And this is ³love, ⁴that we walk ^oafter **His** commandments. This is the commandment, ⁵that, as ye ... heard ⁵from the beginning, ye should walk in it.

7 For many ^odeceivers are entered into the ^oworld, who confess not *Jesus Christ coming in the flesh*. This is *the* deceiver and *the* ^oantichrist.

8 ^oLook to yourselves, ⁵*in order that ye* ^olose not those things which we ^ohave wrought, but that we receive a full ^oreward.

9 Whosoever *goeth before*, and ^oabideth not in the doctrine ..., hath not God. He that ^oabideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the ³Father and the ³Son.

1 **elder.** Ap. 189. Here not an official title, but referring to the apostle's age. Cp. Philem. 9. **unto** = to.
elect. Cp. 1 Pet. 1. 2. But perhaps used in the sense of "excellent".
lady. Gr. *kuria*, fem. of *kurios*. In all probability a proper name, "Kyria".
children. Ap. 108.i. **love.** Ap. 135. I. 1. **the.** Omit.
truth. Seep. 1511. The element or sphere in which the love was seen. Cp. Eph. 4. 15.
also, &c. = all they also. **known.** Ap. 132. I. ii.
2 **For, &c.** = On account of (Ap. 104. v. 2) the truth.
dwelleth = abideth. Gr. *meno*. See p. 1511.
for ever. Ap. 151. II. A. ii. 4. a.
3 **Grace.** Only here, and three times in the Gospel, and twice in Rev., in John's writings. Ap. 184. I. 1. Cp. 1 Tim. 1. 2.
be = shall be. **mercy.** Only here in John.
God. Ap. 98. I. i. 1. **Father.** Ap. 98. III.
Lord. The texts omit. **Jesus Christ.** Ap. 98. XI.
Son. Ap. 108. iii. The expression "The Son of the Father", is found here only. Cp. John 1. 18. 1 John 1. 3. **love.** Ap. 135. II. 1.
4 **rejoiced.** Cp. 3 John 3. Several of Paul's epistles open with thanksgiving.
greatly. Gr. *lian*. Only here and 3 John 3 in John's writings.
of. Ap. 104. vii. Not implying that there were others who did not so walk, but referring to such as he had met. **have.** Omit.
5 **beseech** = ask. Ap. 134. I. 3.
new. Gr. *kainos*. See Matt. 9.17.
from the beginning. Gr. *ap' arches*. See 1 John 1. 1.
that = in order that. Gr. *hina*.
6 **have.** Omit. In this verse is the Fig. *Antimetabole*, "walk ... commandments—commandment ... walk".
7 **deceivers.** Gr. *planos*. See 2 Cor. 6. 8. Cp. 1 John 4. 1.
world. Ap. 129. 1.
that, &c. Lit. Jesus Christ coming in the flesh. The present participle is used, as in Rev. 1. 4. In 1 John 4. 2, 3, the perfect is used, referring to His first coming. This refers to His second coming. Cp. Acts 1. 11.

a, an = the.

antichrist. See 1 John 2. 18.

lose. Gr. *apollumi*. See John 17. 12.

have wrought. I. e. the truth and love resulting from John's teaching.

reward. Gr. *misthos*.

In John's writings only here, John 4. 36 (wages), and Rev. 11. 18; 22. 12.

proago. See 1 Tim. 1. 18; 5. 24. Heb. 7. 18. This refers to false teachers who claimed to bring some higher teaching, beyond the apostle's doctrine. Cp. 1 Tim. 6. 3. 2 Tim. 1. 13; 3. 14.

abideth. See "dwelleth", v. 2.

8 **Look to.** Ap. 133. I. 5.

we. The texts read "ye" in both occ.

9 **transgresseth.** Ap. 128. VI. 1. The texts read "goeth before", Gr.

Christ. Ap. 98. IX.

of Christ. The texts omit.

II. JOHN.

10 If *any one cometh* unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, *and bid him not* God speed [say Hail!]:

11 For he that ¹⁰biddeth him God speed *partaketh* of his ^oevil deeds.

12 Having many things to write ¹to you, I ^owould not *write by means of* ^opaper and ink: but I *hope* to come unto you, and ^ospeak ^oface to face, ⁵*in order that your* ^ojoy may be ^ofull.

13 The ¹children of thy ¹elect sister *salute* thee.

10 there . . . any = any one (Ap. 123. 3) cometh. neither, &c. = and . . . not (Ap. 105. II).

bid . . . God speed. Lit., say, Hail! (Gr. *chairein*, to rejoice. See Matt. 26. 49).

11 is partaker = partaketh. Gr. *koinoneo*. See Rom. 15. 27. 1 Tim. 5. 22. evil. Ap. 128. III. 1.

12 would. Ap. 102. 3.

with = by means of. Ap. 104. v. 1.

paper. Gr. *chartes*. Only here.

ink. See 2 Cor. 3. 3.

speak. Ap. 121. 7.

face, &c. Lit. mouth to (Ap. 104. xv. 3) mouth.

trust = hope.

our. The texts read "your".

joy. See 1 John 1. 4.

full. See 1 John 1. 4.

13 greet = salute.

Amen. The texts omit.