

A POSTCARD FROM A PASTOR 1.

2 John

Introduction. _____

Note three reasons why this book should be read, preached and teach through this small book:

1. First, this epistle incorporates both truth and love.
2. Secondly, this epistle informs us that truth and love, should always lead to obedience (4-9).
3. Thirdly, this epistle includes help in how respond to false teachers (Verses 10-11).

Note this exegesis of this letter in the following ways:

I. FIRST, NOTICE THE BASIS OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, WHICH BRINGS A WORD OF COMMENDATION (John 1-4).

A. First, he commends the lady as a person (Verse 1a)

B. Secondly, he commends her as a participant (Verses 1b-3).

1. First, as a participant in the truth of the gospel (Verse 1b).
2. Secondly, as a participant in the thrust of the gospel (2-3).

2.

C. Thirdly, he commends her as a parent (Verse 4).

II. SECONDLY, NOTE THE BEHAVIOR OF THE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, WHICH BRINGS A WORD OF COMMAND (Verses 5-6).

A. First, notice how Christian love is demanded (Verse 3).

B. Secondly, note how Christian love is defined (Verse 6).

C. Thirdly, consider how Christian love is distinctive (Verse 7c) “. . . ye should walk in it.”

1. First, this distinctiveness is exposed in love vertically (Matthew 22:37-38).

2. Secondly, this distinctiveness is expressed in love horizontally. (Matthew 22:39-40).

HOW?

a. We need to accept the fact that love is not an option (John 13:35).

b. We need to acknowledge the fact that love is not an opinion (2 John 6).

III. THIRDLY, CONSIDER THE _____ OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, WHICH BRINGS A WORD OF _____ (John 7-11).

3.

A. First, notice the danger of the _____ (Verses 7-8).

1. First, he shows how we can _____ them (Verse 7).

a. First, note how they are _____ (Verse 7a).

b. Secondly, notice how they are _____ makers (Verse 7b).

c. Thirdly, consider how they are _____ (Verse 7c).

d. Fourthly, notice how they are _____.

e. Fifthly, observe how they are _____ (Verse 9a) "... *abideth not in the doctrine* ..."

f. Sixthly, see these false teachers are _____ (9ab) "... *hath not God.*"

2. Secondly, he shares how we should _____ them (Verse 8).

a. First, keep yourselves so that you will not lose your _____ progress in maturity (Verse 8a).

b. Secondly, keep yourselves that you will not lose a _____ reward (Verse 8b).

B. Secondly, note the danger to the _____ (Verse 9a).

C. Thirdly, consider the danger at the _____ (Verses 10-11).

4.

Just how do we keep an arm's length?

1. First, we do it by keeping our eyes _____ (Verse 8a) "*Look to yourselves . . .*"

2. Secondly, we do it by keeping our doors _____ (Verse 10a)

hirdly, we do it by keeping our wallets _____ (10c-11).

3. Fourthly, we do it by keeping our Bibles _____.

IV. FOURTHLY, LOOK AT THE _____ OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, WHICH BRINGS SOME WORDS OF _____ (John 12-13).

A. First, note what John is _____ to do in the future (Verse 12).

B. Secondly, notice what John has _____ to his friends (Verse 13).

CONCLUSION:

1. We must _____ the truth of God's Word to become a way of life!

2. We must _____ the truth of God's Word, but never separate it from _____ the love of Christ

3. We must _____ that even godly Christians are never immune to spiritual danger.

4. We must never _____ our thinking to the point of believing everyone who speaks in the name of Christ, belongs to Christ.

5. Fifthly, we must understand that when error is _____, discerning love must be kept within its bounds.