

2 John 9-11

2 John

- Truth abiding in the children of God
 - Walking in truth
- 1. Love the people of God
- 2. Walk according to Christ's commandments
- 3. Be careful because of deceitful workers

Must abide in the doctrine of Christ and reject those who bring another doctrine

2 John 9-11

- There is something called the doctrine of Christ.
 - “Teaching”
 - Compare Acts 13:7-12

“...Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man. This man called for Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear **the word of God**. But Elymas the sorcerer (for so his name is translated) withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from **the faith**. Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him and said, ‘O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting **the straight ways of the Lord**? And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time.’ And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand. Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had been done, being astonished at the **teaching of the Lord**.”

The “doctrine of Christ”

- Consider

- Matthew 16:6,12 – is the “doctrine of the Pharisees” the teaching about who the Pharisees are, or is it what they teach?
- Acts 2:42 – is the “apostle’s doctrine” a teaching about who the apostles are, or is it what the apostles teach?
- Revelation 2:15

The doctrine of Christ is the teaching of Christ
and His apostles

2 John 9-11

- ✓ There is a doctrine of Christ
- The doctrine of Christ has boundaries
 - How else could it be transgressed?
 - “goeth onward”
 - “goes too far” / “goes on ahead”
 - “to go past or to pass over...overstep, neglect, violate, transgress” (Thayer)
 - How else could one abide in?
 - If you abide in your house, you are within its boundaries – its walls. You are not in the chicken pen or dog house that’s outside the boundaries of your house
- Proverbs 22:28

2 John 9-11

- ✓ There is a doctrine of Christ
- ✓ The doctrine of Christ has boundaries
- There are two possibilities given
 - Can either abide in or transgress
 - No middle ground
 - James 4:4
 - Matthew 6:24
 - 1 Kings 18:21
 - Matthew 12:30

2 John 9-11

- ✓ There is a doctrine of Christ
- ✓ The doctrine of Christ has boundaries
- ✓ There are two possibilities given
- The consequences are clear and opposites
 - Either don't have God, or have both the Father and the Son
 - John 14:6
 - John 8:24

2 John 9-11

- ✓ There is a doctrine of Christ
- ✓ The doctrine of Christ has boundaries
- ✓ There are two possibilities given
- ✓ The consequences are clear and opposites
- It is not only possible to transgress but to bring that other doctrine to others also
 - 2 Peter 2:1-2

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- ✓ There is a doctrine of Christ
- ✓ The doctrine of Christ has boundaries
- ✓ There are two possibilities given
- ✓ The consequences are clear and opposites
- ✓ It is not only possible to transgress but to bring that other doctrine to others also
- Do not receive one who teaches another doctrine
 - Ephesians 5:11
 - 2 Corinthians 6:14-17

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- ✓ The doctrine of Christ has boundaries
- ✓ There are two possibilities given
- ✓ The consequences are clear and opposites
- ✓ It is not only possible to transgress but to bring that other doctrine to others also
- ✓ Do not receive one who teaches another doctrine
- Obedience to this instruction requires discernment and judgment
 - 1 John 4:1 and 6
 - 2 Corinthians 11:13-14

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- ✓ The doctrine of Christ has boundaries
- ✓ There are two possibilities given
- ✓ The consequences are clear and opposites
- ✓ It is not only possible to transgress but to bring that other doctrine to others also
- ✓ Do not receive one who teaches another doctrine
- ✓ Obedience to this instruction requires discernment and judgment
- **Grave are the consequences of accepting one who teaches another doctrine**
 - “Shares in his evil deeds”

2 John 9-11

Much harm is done to the cause of Christ and to his children by welcoming and accepting the ones who do not bring the doctrine of Christ.

1. It encourages the person in error.
2. It does nothing to get him out of his error.
3. It compromises the stand for truth that the receiver had, for how can he preach, teach, or believe one thing yet accept and welcome the teacher of another thing?
4. The reception of the teacher of error is a bad influence on others and leads others the wrong direction. That influence does not lead others toward the truth but toward error and compromise.
5. This is a test of our loyalty. Not our loyalty to a group. Not our loyalty to a party. Not our loyalty to a foundation, college, or publication. It is a test of our loyalty to Christ! To accept the teacher who goes beyond the doctrine of Christ is a compromise of our loyalty to Christ!

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- ✓ The doctrine of Christ has boundaries
- ✓ There are two possibilities given
- ✓ The consequences are clear and opposites
- ✓ It is not only possible to transgress but to bring that other doctrine to others also
- ✓ Do not receive one who teaches another doctrine
- ✓ Obedience to this instruction requires discernment and judgment
- ✓ Grave are the consequences of accepting one who teaches another doctrine

2 John 9-11

This is culturally and politically incorrect

- “We’re all going to the same place, just different paths”
 - Matthew 7:13-14
- “Don’t judge”
 - Philippians 1:9
- “You can’t know for sure”
 - John 8:24
- “Need to tolerate different versions of truth.”
- “Unity in Diversity”
 - “core” vs. “non-core”?

2 John 9-11

This teaching has been and continues to be rejected

- Consider the propagators of error on marriage, divorce, and remarriage
 - Divorce for any cause
 - Guilty fornicator may remarry
 - Unbelievers not subject to God's marriage law
- How serious is this teaching of error?
 - Hebrews 13:4 – leads people to sin and to be lost
- But what does the apostle John teach us to do?
 - Reject and neither accept nor welcome such a teacher