

HOW TO PLEASE GOD

10-20-2024 PM

INTRO.:

A. Read the text: 2 John 5-9.

B. Regarding the text:

1. The book is penned by the apostle John.
2. 2 John is addressed to “the elect lady and her children.”
 - 1) Who is this? ... We cannot know for sure.
 - 2) But the lessons are still true and powerful.

C. Notice the *three-fold counsel*. (Designed to keep one steadfast in the faith.)

1. **LOVE** one another. (Vs. 5)
2. **LOOK** to yourselves. (Vs. 8)
3. **ABIDE** in the doctrine. (Vs. 9)

D. Note each one:

1. **LOVE:**

- 1) **1 John 2:7-10.**
- 2) **1 John 3:11** “For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.”
- 3) **1 John 3:23** “And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.”
- 4) Our love for one another will bind us together.
 - a. **Gal. 5:13** “...by love serve one another.”

2. **LOOK:**

- 1) Watch yourselves.
 - a. **Gal 6:4** “But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.”
 - b. **2 Cor. 13:5** “Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves.”
 - c. Same as when partaking of the Lord’s Supper: **1 Cor. 11:28** “But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.”
- 2) Be careful and watch:
 - a. **Matt. 24:4** “And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.”
 - b. Make sure that how we live is from God.
 - c. **1 John 4:1** “Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”
- 3) We are each responsible for our actions – WATCH OUT!

3. **ABIDE:** (The contrast to “abideth not.”)

- 1) Refuse error. (Vs. 6, 9-11)
- 2) Keep truth.
 - a. **1 Cor. 15:58.**
 - b. **1 John 2:24-25** “Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father. And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life.”
- 3) **Heb. 3:14** “For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end.”