

# Sermon Growth Guide



**November 9, 2025**

## Truth and Lies

### 2 John 7-13

**Key Verse:** “Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son.”

**Big Idea:** The Son of God left His throne in heaven, clothed Himself in flesh and sacrificed His life on the cross because He loves you infinitely. Don't let anyone steal that truth from you!

## Foundations

The “elder” who writes this letter is traditionally understood to be the apostle John, and “the lady chosen by God” likewise is understood by most to be a gathering of believers that John has shepherded in some context.

John is aware that the churches over which he has oversight are being infiltrated by false teachers, and that believers are in danger of being led away from the teaching of Christ. To lose this teaching is to lose fellowship with both the Father and the Son.

This is such a serious issue that John commands believers not to welcome or take into their home any false teacher (= deceiver). He further warns that anyone who does welcome such a false teacher becomes in essence an accomplice to the spreading of a message that undercuts the spread of the true gospel.

The key to discovering what the deception is which so deeply concerned John may be found in v. 7: “... many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist.” John uses the term “flesh” (sarx in Greek), not “body” (soma). What may be the significance of this?

## Understanding God's Word

Together, read Matthew 2 John 7-13.

What is so crucial about confessing that “Jesus Christ has come in the flesh”? Doesn't that seem rather obvious to Christians?

What do you think is behind the deceivers' teaching that Christ didn't come in the flesh? Why would John refer to such false teachers as antichrists?

## Applying God's Word

How does an orthodox understanding of the Incarnation of Jesus bolster your trust in God?

Think about what it meant for the Son of God to leave the throne of heaven and stoop in humility to become a human being, destined for the cross, all because His love for you compelled Him. Meditate on what such love means for your life.

## Witnessing God's Word

In the world today, there are many who have not heard the message of the gospel, but perhaps only some truncated or false form of it. You may be the messenger God uses to help a lost soul discover that we are a “visited planet” because God loves human beings so much He came to live as one of us and to give His life as a ransom for our salvation. There is no better news to share than this.