

## Message #6

## II John 1:12-13

**SOMETIMES THE BEST FORM OF COMMUNICATION IS NOT WORDS WRITTEN ON PAPER, BUT WORDS SPOKEN FACE-TO-FACE.**

**FINAL POINT #1** – John had many things yet to write to this woman. **1:12a**

The main point God wanted this woman to get was now in print. The main point was your love and hospitality must always be rooted in truth. What God wanted to communicate to this woman was if you are not careful who you associate with, you can lose your present level and status, you can lose your full rewards and you actually participate in evil.

**Observation #1** - In the mind of John, many things needed to be communicated.

God has given us what He wants us to know in His Word; but that does not mean other things were not stated or taught to individuals privately and personally.

**Observation #2** - God is the One who determined it was time to stop writing.

The verb “I do not want” or “I would not” is aorist passive. What this means is there was a point in time when John was led to stop writing. The passive verb indicates John was not the originating source of the action; he was the recipient of the action.

**Observation #3** - John wrote with paper and ink.

The Greek word for paper is kartoo, which refers to a sheet of paper made of papyrus strips (G. Abbott-Smith, p. 480). The word for “ink” is melanos, which literally means “black.” Ink was made of a black carbon and soot mixed with gum and some water.

**FINAL POINT #2** – John wanted to communicate with this woman face-to-face. **1:12b**

Back in John’s day, writing was the primary source of communication. But there was still nothing like face-to-face communication. We have telephones today, we have tape recorders, we have e-mail; but nothing will ever replace face-to-face communication. Keep in mind that John had not been writing positive things to this lady. This was tough teaching.

Now I want you to carefully notice why John wanted to go to this woman’s house and visit her face to face—so they could have full joy.

John found his greatest joy in fellowship with those who walked in truth (II John 4; III John 4). You will lack in joy until you love truth and love to fellowship with others face to face who love truth. Fellowship **must always be** based on truth.

**FINAL POINT #3** – The greeting of the nieces and nephews. **1:13**

John closes the letter by telling this woman that the children of her elect sister greet her. The word “greet” is different from **verse 10**. This word means to welcome and salute. John is informing this woman that the children of her sister honored her.

This obviously was a Christian family. This final greeting from these relatives would do three things:

1) It would let the elect lady know her sister’s children were in total agreement with John.

Her own sister’s children knew that she needed to get away from those who were false.

2) It would let the elect lady know she had a responsibility to others.

Her decisions affected more than just her.

3) It would let the elect lady know that she was esteemed.

II John is a powerful little book. It is practical in so many ways:

1. We must know the truth. 1-4, 9
2. We must always love in the context of truth. 5-6
3. We must identify false teachers who do not teach the truth. 7-8
4. We must separate ourselves from false teachers. 9-11
5. We must carefully study the written Word. **12**
6. We must fellowship face-to-face. **12**

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