

WOMEN IN
THE BIBLE:
THE ELECT LADY
AND ME

LOVED AND
RESPECTED



13
LESSON

WOMEN IN THE BIBLE: THE ELECT LADY AND ME

INTRODUCTION

This is the only book of the Bible addressed to a woman. The apostle John may have been writing to a specific woman. The Bible does not reveal the exact identity of the “elect lady.” We are not told her name or where she lived.

The New Testament records that God used many righteous women to serve His people. Some hosted local congregations in their homes. Some were deaconesses who attended to various physical needs of God’s church. The apostle Paul frequently addressed these women in his letters. John may have been doing the same in his letter.

DISCOVER

- * How She is Regarded
- * Counsel She Receives

GOING DEEPER

1. What term does John use to identify himself? (2 John 1)
2. How does John express his regard for the elect lady? (Verse 1)
3. Who else loved this special woman? (Verse 1)
4. The relationship and the love John felt for her was based upon what? (Verse 2)
5. After giving her a blessing, what does John say causes him to rejoice? (Verses 3-4)
6. John proceeds to give her wise counsel. What is the theme of his counsel? (Verses 5-6)
7. After warning the elect lady to beware of those who are deceivers, he encourages her to hold fast to what? (Verse 7-8)
8. There are some strong words against those who attempt to deceive the believers. How does John advise her to relate to these individuals? (Verses 10-11)
9. What do the closing words of the chapter imply?

THE ELECT LADY

KEY SCRIPTURE: 2 JOHN

WORDS FOR TODAY

10. What character traits did the elect lady have that made her a person whom so many loved? How can we develop these traits?

11. Was the elect lady respected? Why do you think she was respected?

WORDS OF WISDOM

I Corinthians 13 is the chapter in the Bible that describes love in ways we can understand and emulate. Once a day read through this chapter using various translations of the Bible. As we gain a fuller understanding of God's boundless love, we will begin to emulate the character traits which were lived by the elect lady.

Notes:

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. John speaks of a true love of believers for one another because of the truth we all share. Sharing in this truth engenders love for one another, especially the "sincere love" made possible by obedience to the truth. What is the relationship between obedience to the commandments and love for fellow believers? How is it manifest?

2. Why do we need to be wise and discerning today when evaluating messages that are brought to us by individuals and the media? What are some sources of deceptive messages, perhaps subtle ones, that surround us? Which sources am I most influenced by?

MY PRAYER FOR TODAY

Lord, refine my character by Your Holy Spirit so Your love will be reflected in my every thought, word, and action.

SHARING

What are some ways I can exemplify God's love to women in my church, my family, and my community?



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