

2 John

2 John 1:3-8

2 John

1-4, Greeting

1-2, The Correspondents

- 1a, The Writer
- 1b, The Recipient
- 1c-2, Their Relation

3, The Blessing

4, The Thanksgiving

5-11, Body

- 5-7, Summary: 3 Signs
- 8-11, Warning
 - 8-9, Examine Yourself
 - 10-11, Examine Visitors

12-13, Closing

- What is the meaning of peace?
- Why are grace, mercy, and peace always listed in this order in greetings?
- What roles does each member of the trinity play in bringing us this triple blessing?
- How are the sections of the body marked?
- How does 6a differ from 5?
- Against what error does 6b warn?
- How do vv. 8-11 reflect the Lord's instruction in Matthew 7?
- Where else do we see this principle in the NT?

Peace (εἰρήνη *eirēnē* G1515): Absence of enmity

Twofold Separation:

Jew vs. Gentile:

Eph 2:11 Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called **the Circumcision** in the flesh made by hands;

Man vs. God:

12 That at that time ye were **without Christ**, being aliens from the **commonwealth of Israel**, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and **without God** in the world:

Solution to Both:

13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

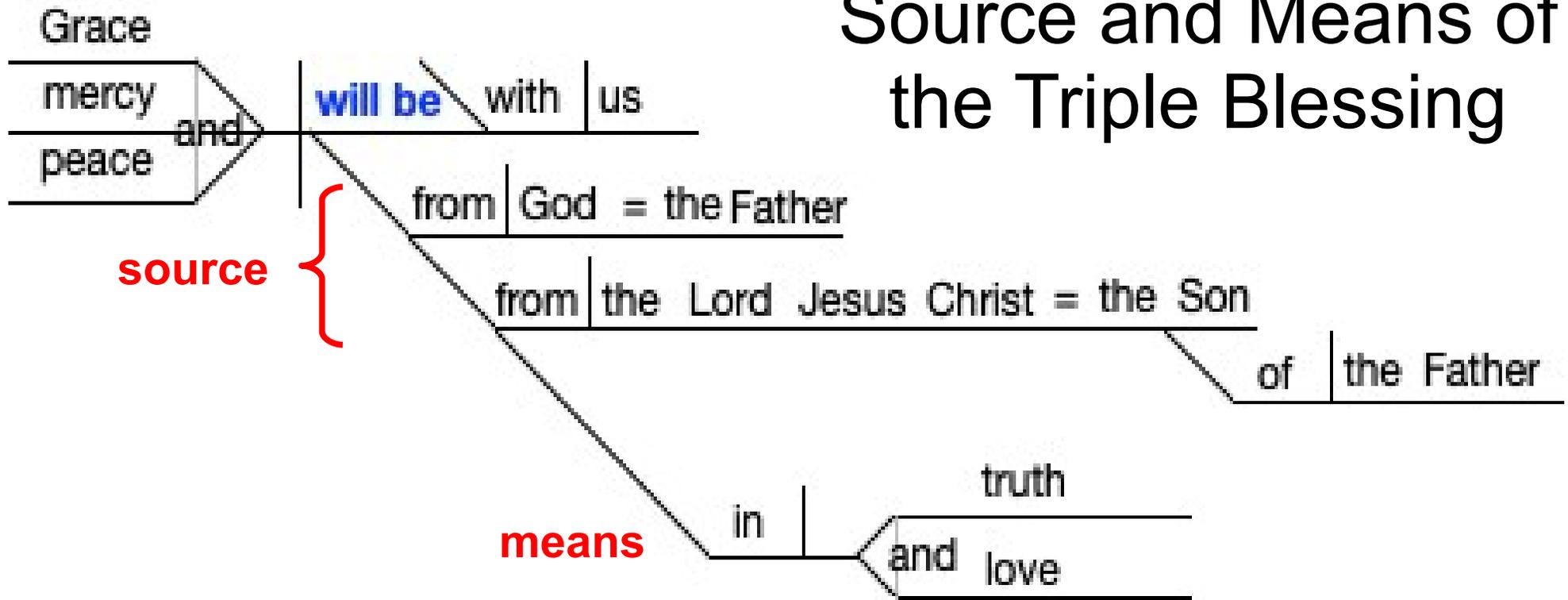
Solution of Jew vs. Gentile:

14 For he is our **peace**, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; 15 Having abolished in his flesh the **enmity**, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making **peace**;

Solution of Man vs. God:

16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the **enmity** thereby: 17 And came and preached **peace** to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. 18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

Source and Means of the Triple Blessing



Source: Father & Son (cf. Rom 1:7, 1Co 1:3, 1Ti 1:2, 2Ti 1:2, Tit 1:4)

1Jn 4:14 And we have seen and do testify that **the Father sent the Son** to be the Saviour of the world. (cf. 1 John 4:9-10; John 3:16-17; Gal 4:4)

Means: the Holy Spirit

Jhn 16:13 Howbeit when he, the **Spirit of truth**, is come, he will guide you into all **truth**: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

1 John 5:6 the **Spirit is truth**.

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the **Spirit is love ...**

4, Thanksgiving as Part of the Greeting

Rom 1:7 To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. 8 **First, I thank my God** through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.

1Co 1:3 Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. 4 **I thank my God** always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ; ...

Structure of the Body, 5-11

	Request	Explanation
5-7	5 I beseech thee ... love one another	6 this is love ... this is the commandment ... 7 ... this is a deceiver
8-9	8 Look to yourselves ...	9 Whosoever transgresseth he that abideth ...
10-11	10 Receive him not ... neither bid ...	11 He ... is partaker of his evil deeds

5 from the beginning

Jhn 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

The Explanation of vv. 6-7: 3x “this is”

6a this is love ... commandments

Changes from v. 5:

- Commandment → commandments
- Love one another → love

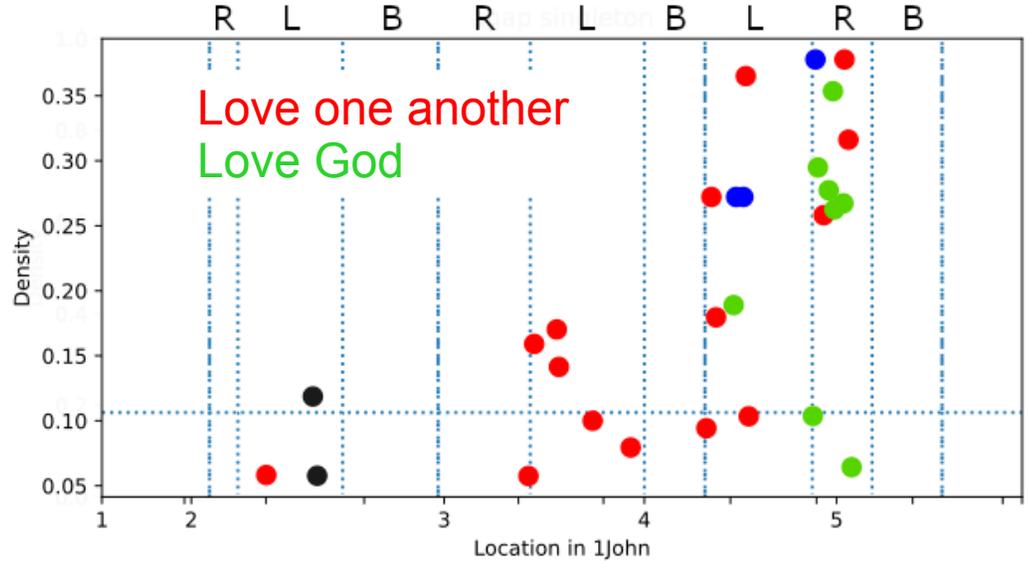
John 14:15 If ye love me, **keep my commandments**

John 14:21 He that hath my **commandments** and **keepeth** them, he it is that loveth me ...

6b this is the commandment

Jud 1:3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once [for all] delivered unto the saints.

“to love” (ἀγαπάω *agapaō* G25) in 1Jn



Progressions in vv 5-7

Pronouns:

- 5a I beseech **thee**
- 5b-6 that **we** love one another ... that **we** walk ...
- 6b as **ye** have heard ... , **ye** should walk...

Nature of request and explanation

- 5-6 positive encouragement
- 7 warning of error

8-11, Two Warnings

Distinctions from the Summary:

- All plural (“you” not “thou”)
- Warnings (negative)
- Direct imperatives (vs. “I beseech”)

	Examine Yourself	Discern the Body of Christ
Matt 7	5 first cast out the beam out of thine own eye ;	and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye
1 Cor 11	28 let a man examine himself	29 unworthily, ... not discerning the Lord's body
2 Jn 1	8 Look to yourselves	10 receive him not

The Order of Correction

Mat 7:1 Judge not, that ye be not judged. 2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. 3 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? 4 Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? 5 Thou hypocrite, **first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then** shalt thou see clearly to **cast out** the mote out of thy brother's eye.

1Co 11:28 But let a man **examine himself**, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. 29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not **discerning the Lord's body**.