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2 John

The book of 2 John is a short letter written by the apostle John to a woman and her children, whom he refers to as the "elect lady." The identity of this woman is uncertain, but it is likely that she was a leader in a Christian community that John knew well. The letter begins with a greeting and an expression of joy that the "elect lady's" children are walking in the truth. John then urges the recipients of the letter to love one another, which is a common theme throughout the New Testament.

John goes on to warn against false teachers who deny that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh. He advises his readers not to welcome these deceivers into their homes or offer them any form of greeting. John cautions that anyone who extends hospitality to such a person is sharing in their evil deeds.

John encourages his readers to continue in the truth they have heard from the beginning, which is the message about Christ. He affirms that those who abide in this truth will have both the Father and the Son. John emphasizes the importance of continuing to follow the teachings of Christ, as well as the importance of avoiding false teachings and those who promote them.

In the next section of the letter, John addresses the readers as "children" and urges them to love one another. He emphasizes that this is not a new commandment, but rather something that they have heard from the beginning. John explains that love is the way to know that they are in the truth and that they belong to God.

John concludes the letter by emphasizing the importance of keeping Christ's commandments. He notes that these commandments are not burdensome and that they lead to a life of joy and peace. John encourages his readers to remain faithful to Christ and to avoid the false teachings of those who deny that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh. Overall, the book of 2 John emphasizes the importance of love and remaining faithful to the truth of Christ, while also warning against false teachings that deny the humanity of Jesus. It encourages believers to continue to follow the teachings of Christ and to avoid false teachers who promote erroneous doctrines.

Here are some of the important verses from the book of 2 John, along with brief explanations and their locations in the Bible:

1. Verse 4: "I was very glad to find some of your children walking in truth, just as we have received commandment to do from the Father." This verse highlights the importance of walking in truth, which is a recurring theme throughout the book. (2 John 1:4)
2. Verse 6: "And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it." This verse emphasizes the connection between love and obedience to Christ's commandments. (2 John 1:6)
3. Verse 7: "For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist." This verse warns against false teachers who deny the humanity of Jesus Christ, which was a common heresy in the early church. (2 John 1:7)
4. Verse 8: "Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward." This verse urges believers to remain vigilant in their faith and not to fall away from the truth. (2 John 1:8)
5. Verse 10: "If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting." This verse advises against extending hospitality to false teachers who promote erroneous doctrines. (2 John 1:10)
6. Verse 12: "Though I have many things to write to you, I do not want to do so with paper and ink; but I hope to come to you and speak face to face, so that your joy may be made full." This verse expresses John's desire to visit the "elect lady" and her children in person, which underscores the importance of personal relationships in the early church. (2 John 1:12)

Overall, the book of 2 John emphasizes the importance of remaining faithful to Christ and avoiding false teachings, while also highlighting the role of love and obedience in the life of a believer.

Notes:

It is difficult to say which questions in the book of 2 John are the most difficult and yet have no answer, as different readers may find different passages challenging or ambiguous. However, some of the more challenging aspects of 2 John include:

1. The identity of the "chosen lady" to whom the letter is addressed. Some scholars believe this may be a specific individual, while others suggest it could be a metaphorical reference to a church or group of believers.
2. The exact nature of the false teachers referred to in the letter. While it is clear that they are promoting a false doctrine, the specifics of their teachings and beliefs are not explicitly stated.
3. The meaning of the phrase "walking in truth" in verse 4. While it seems to refer to living in accordance with God's commandments, there is debate over whether it implies a specific set of beliefs or behaviors.
4. The relationship between love and obedience in verse 6. Some interpret this passage as suggesting that love for God and obedience to His commands are two

sides of the same coin, while others see them as separate but complementary aspects of the Christian life.

Overall, while these passages may be challenging, they are open to interpretation and there is no one "correct" answer. Ultimately, the most important message of 2 John is the call to love one another and hold fast to the truth of the gospel.