

GOD'S SPHERE OF TRUTH

(2 JOHN 3)

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A. God reaches out to mankind:

1. **TRUTH** - God's **thinking**, representing **the nature of God** (Divine Essence)
"...the **truth of the Lord** is everlasting..." Psalms 117:2
"...O Lord, **God of truth.**" Psalms 31:5
"**Thy word is truth.**" John 17:17
"**I am** the way, **the truth**, and the life;..." John. 14:6; with Jn. 1:14, 17
2. **LOVE** - God's **motivation**, a manifestation of the nature of God
"...God is **love.**" 1 John 4:8
"...the **love of God** was **manifested...**" 1 John 4:9
3. **GRACE** - God's **plan**, formulated based on God's love. 1 John 4:10
"For God so loved the world that He gave..." John 3:16; with Eph. 2:8
"**Grace, mercy, and peace...from God...in truth and love.**" 2 John 3
4. **MERCY/JUSTICE** - God's **work**, based on God's plan (Grace in action)
"...the grace of God has appeared..." Titus 2:11
"He saved us ... **according to His mercy...**" Titus 3:5
"...**mercy triumphs over judgment.**" James 2:13
5. **PEACE** - God's **result**, potential peace with mankind (Reconciliation)
"**Peace** I leave with you..." John 14:27a, b
"...the **gospel of peace.**" Eph. 6:15

B. Man responds to God:

1. **PEACE** - Man recognizes God's promise of peace (the word of reconciliation).
2 Cor. 5:18, 19
"...**we have peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ." Rom. 5:1
2. **MERCY/JUSTICE** - Man **accepts the work** of God, the death of Jesus Christ on the cross.
"This is the **work of God**, that you believe in Him..." John 6:29
3. **GRACE** - Man begins to **understand the plan** of God (grace orientation).
"...**grow in grace...**" 2 Pet. 3:18
4. **LOVE** - Man begins to **understand the love** of God.
"**We love** because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19
5. **TRUTH** - Man begins to **understand the thinking** of God.
"...grow in...**knowledge** of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Pet. 3:18)

C. Believers reach out to mankind:

1. **TRUTH** - Believers **reach out to the world with truth**, the gospel and the word of God en toto, based on their new nature. 2 Cor. 5:17, 19
2. **LOVE** - Believers reach out to the world motivated by the love of God, produced by the Holy Spirit. Gal.5:22; 1 John 4:19
Believers love in truth. 2 John 1
3. **GRACE** - Believers are motivated by the love of God, as “ambassadors for Christ,” to present the plan of salvation. 2 Cor. 5:19b-20
4. **MERCY/JUSTICE** - Believers demonstrate the plan of God by mercy and compassion to those they come in contact with.
“...**have mercy on some...**” Jude 22, 23
5. **PEACE** - Believers establish peace and are reconciled to one another through the cross of Jesus Christ. Eph. 2:14-19

D. People respond to believers and therefore to God: (SEE PAGE #1)

1. **PEACE**
2. **MERCY/JUSTICE**
3. **GRACE**
4. **LOVE**
5. **TRUTH**