

We are on a journey through the letters of the Apostle John finding the reasons God chose to preserve these in His book. 1 John was written *that ye may know* that you have eternal life (1 John 5:13) which is the starting place for a sound relationship with God and journey in this world. 2 John, a very short letter, was written to show us the boundary of our Christian love toward others which is the truth of God (*for the truth's sake* – 2 John 2). In this little book of 3 John we are going to find powerful truths and wisdom from the Apostle concerning Christian hospitality, missionary activity/guidance, good/bad behavior, and having a good testimony. This will be a short, exciting journey through the _____ letter from the Apostle John.

THE WELLBELOVED GAIUS – 3 John 1-8

1. The Uniqueness of 3 John

- 3 John is another specific letter written by John to a specific person like the elect lady of 2 John, but this time the recipient is named Gaius, a _____ in a local church – v. 1; Acts 19:29 (*Macedonia*), Acts 20:4 (*Derbe*); Rom. 16:23 and 1 Cor. 1:14 (*Corinth*).
- While 2 John is the shortest book in the Bible by verses (13 vs. 14), 3 John is the shortest book by _____ (299 vs. 303).
- The theme of 2 John is to **reject false doctrine** (*and those associated*) *for the truth's sake*, while 3 John's theme is to **reject false** _____ and *walk in the truth* you know – v. 3-4, 9-10.
- Gaius is the recipient of this letter while two others Gaius knew are also mentioned by name (*Diotrephes and Demetrius*)...one with a good testimony and one not so much – v. 1, 9, 12.
- Truth and love were the most repeated words in 2 John (5x *each*) and _____ is the most repeated word in some form (*truth/true*) in 3 John (7X) – v. 1, 3-4, 8, 12.
- John mentions his love of Gaius, his son in the faith, ____X – v. 1, 2, 3-5, 11; John 13:1, 34-35; 15:9.

2. The Elder John to His Beloved Disciple Gaius – v. 1-4

- He _____ Gaius to prosper externally in health and life as he was prospering internally in his soul – v. 1-2; 2 Cor. 4:16; 1 Tim. 5:23; 2 Tim. 4:20; John 21:18-19.

A healthy _____ (Ps. 19:7; 23:3; 42:11; 63:5; 119:25, 28; Matt. 11:28-29; 2 Pet. 2:7-8) =

- Gaius was sound in doctrine and in _____ of the doctrine (*walking in the truth*) which blessed John beyond measure (*no greater joy*) – v. 3-4; Rom. 2:19-24; James 1:22-25; Luke 11:28.

The brethren came and _____ (v. 3; John 4:16-19, 29-30; 2 Cor. 3:2) =

My children (v. 4; Gal. 4:19-20; Phm. 1:10; 1 Thess. 2:19; Luke 1:3; Acts 1:1) =

3. The Powerful Testimony of Christian Hospitality – v. 5-8

- Gaius **faithfully** and **charitably** cared for brethren (*and strangers*) who came to him connected with or looking for the truth of God...as _____ should – v. 5-6; Rom. 12:13; 1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:8; 1 Pet. 4:9; Eph. 2:11-13.

Bring forward on their _____ after a Godly sort (v. 6; Heb. 5:12; Job 26:1-4) =

- These missionaries/evangelists who came through Gaius' area took nothing of the Gentiles but relied on the saints of God for their _____ (*care*) – v. 7-8; Matt. 10:11-13, 40-42.

For his name's sake they went forth (v. 7; Matt. 25:31-40; Col. 3:24) =

We ought to receive such...fellowhelpers of the _____ (v. 8; 2 John 10-11) =