

1 John 3 is one of the smallest books in the entire Bible. It is written from the beloved Apostle John in the later stages of his life to his well-beloved disciple named Gaius (v. 1). This little book has powerful truths concerning Christian hospitality, missionary activity/guidance, good/bad behavior, and a good testimony/reputation. In this letter John mentions three individuals by name: Gaius, Diotrephes, and Demetrius and highlights examples of how each walked in the truth (v. 3-4). Our lives and how we walk daily are known by God and others. As we conclude 3 John today and our entire study of the books of 1, 2, and 3 John, let's be introspective and \_\_\_\_\_ about our own walk with God and testimony with others.

## DIOTREPHES AND DEMETRIUS – 3 John 9-14

### 1. Diotrephes – v. 9-11

- The main sinful issue with Diotrephes was his pride and \_\_\_\_\_ to have preeminence – v. 9; Matt. 11:29; Mark 9:33-35, 10:42-45; Col. 1:12-18; Rev. 2:6, 15; James 4:6.

*Preeminence =*

- Diotrephes was also seditious, acting against biblical \_\_\_\_\_/brethren – v.10; 1 Sam. 24:6-10, 26:9-11; 2 Sam. 15:1-6; Luke 23:19-25; Acts 24:5-6; Gal. 5:19-20; 1 Tim. 5:19.

\_\_\_\_\_ against (Prov. 10:8, 10) =

*Malicious words (Eph. 4:31; Col. 3:8; Titus 3:3; 1 Pet. 2:1; 1 Cor. 14:20) =*

*Not receiving doctrinally aligned \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom. 15:7; 1 Cor. 6:7-8; Rev. 12:10) =*

*Forbidding those who would be hospitable...throwing them out of church (1 Pet. 5:3-4) =*

- Follow the \_\_\_\_\_ and good behavior of brethren and leaders who reflect **God**, not the devil and **evil** – v. 10-11; 1 Cor. 4:14-16, 11:1; Php. 3:17-19; Titus 2:7; 1 Thess. 2:14; Pr. 6:16-19.

*If I come, I will remember his deeds (Mark 3:17; Neh. 13:25; Rom. 12:18) =*

### 2. Demetrius – v. 12

- He is an unknown believer to us (*yet well known*) with a good \_\_\_\_\_ concerning the truth and those associated with John (*and all men*) – 2 Cor. 6:4, 9; Gal. 6:10; Php 4:5; Heb. 12:14.

\_\_\_\_\_ bear record...our record is true (Deut. 17:6, 19:15; Matt. 18:15-17) =

### 3. Closing – v. 13-14

- 2 John and 3 John close **similarly** with John mentioning more to say but only when face to face – Rom. 15:32; 2 Tim. 1:4; 1 Thess. 2:17.
- 2 John and 3 John close **differently** with 2 John mentioning fullness of joy and 3 John the warmth and comradery of Christian \_\_\_\_\_ – Prov. 13:20, 17:17, 18:24, 22:24, 27:17; John 15:14-15.

### 4. Conclusion: Twelve Truths We Take from 2/3 John:

- a. The boundary of our love for and toward others is the truth of God – 2 John 1, 3 John 1.
- b. We can \_\_\_\_\_ rewards at our coming judgment by being deceived away from the truth – 2 John 7-8.
- c. Truth is worth **fighting for, living for**, and even **dividing over** – 2 John 10-11.
- d. We should respond in truth boldly against false doctrine/teachers **who come to us** – 2 John 10-11.
- e. We may know the truth, but our walk (*behavior/actions*) must \_\_\_\_\_ the truth – 2 John 6, 3 John 4.
- f. Our loving stand for the truth of God will cause some \_\_\_\_\_ – 2 John 10-11.
- g. Our present testimonies (*reputation*) matter in people's lives and the work of God – 3 John.
- h. Our \_\_\_\_\_ can be strong/healthy while our bodies and life circumstances may/will decline – 3 John 2.
- i. We \_\_\_\_\_ those with false doctrine **and** those with good doctrine but bad behavior – 2 John 10-11; 3 John 9-10.
- j. Disciple making is a very \_\_\_\_\_ ministry between believers in Jesus Christ – 3 John 4.
- k. When we bring others forward on their journey **we do well** and are fellowhelpers of the truth – 3 John 6.
- l. Godly \_\_\_\_\_ in ministry keep us encouraged when times are tough – 3 John 14.