

### 3 John 1-14 **Gaius – Diotrephes - Demetrius**

#### Greeting with Blessing

<sup>1</sup> The Elder,

To the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth:

<sup>2</sup> Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers. <sup>3</sup>

For I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and testified of the truth that is in you, just as you walk in the truth. <sup>4</sup> I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

#### Gaius Commended for Generosity

<sup>5</sup> Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the brethren and for strangers, <sup>6</sup> who have borne witness of your love before the church. If you send them forward on their journey in a manner worthy of God, you will do well, <sup>7</sup> because they went forth for His name's sake, taking nothing from the Gentiles. <sup>8</sup> We therefore ought to receive such, that we may become fellow workers for the truth.

#### Diotrephes

<sup>9</sup> I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, does not receive us. <sup>10</sup> Therefore, if I come, I will call to mind his deeds which he does, prating against us with malicious words. And not content with that, he himself does not receive the brethren, and forbids those who wish to, putting them out of the church.

#### Advice

<sup>11</sup> Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. He who does good is of God, but he who does evil has not seen God.

#### Demetrius

<sup>12</sup> Demetrius has a good testimony from all, and from the truth itself. And we also bear witness, and you know that our testimony is true.

#### Farewell Greeting

<sup>13</sup> I had many things to write, but I do not wish to write to you with pen and ink; <sup>14</sup> but I hope to see you shortly, and we shall speak face to face.

Peace to you. Our friends greet you. Greet the friends by name.

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

#### Greeting with Blessing [3 John 1-4]

- ✚ John is the Elder who instructed Gaius in the Gospel message, considering him his child in the faith.
- ✚ John had received a good report concerning Gaius from brethren who had come to him.
- ✚ The report confirmed that Gaius was living an exemplary life in keeping with the faith.
- ✚ The good report gave John tremendous joy knowing his children are walking in truth by demonstrating godly love toward the brethren and strangers.

#### Gaius Commended for Generosity [3 John 5-8]

- ✧ Gaius demonstrated hospitality and gave support to the brethren.

- ✧ It appears that Gaius is a Jewish believer because John writing to him said "the brethren took nothing from the Gentiles, therefore we ought to receive such that we may become fellow workers for the truth." By using the word "We" John indicates that Gaius is separate from the Gentiles and would thereby be a fellow Jew.

- ✧ John advised Gaius to be generous in sending the brethren on their journey.

#### Diotrephes [3 John 9-10]

- ✧ Diotrephes did much damage in the Church which John will address if he comes.
- ✧ Diotrephes loves the preeminent place among them.
- ✧ John wrote to the Church but Diotrephes does not receive them.
- ✧ Diotrephes prattles on with malicious words against John and his companions.
- ✧ Refuses to extend hospitality toward the brethren and forbids those who wish to, putting them out of the Church.

#### Advise to believers [3 John 11]

- ✧ Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. He who does good is of God, but he who does evil has not seen God.
- ✧ When there is an evil example in the Church such as Diotrephes, the others need to be cautioned not to imitate the evil, but choose what is good.
- ✧ He who does good is of God.
- ✧ He who does evil has not seen God.

#### Demetrius [3 John 12]

- ✧ Demetrius received a good report which John affirmed and associated himself with the truth of the report.

#### Farewell Greeting [3 John 13-14]

- ✧ John prefers face to face communication over writing even though he had many more things to share, which he expects to do very shortly.
- ✧ Peace to you. Our friends greet you. Greet the friends by name.