

Lesson 8

3 John 1-14

• Questions

1. What feeling did John have toward the one to whom he wrote (verse 1)?

2. What prayer did John pray on Gaius' behalf (verse 2)?

3. What did John rejoice greatly over (verses 3-4)?

4. What faithful work was Gaius commended for doing (verses 5-6)?

5. What were those travelling on their journey doing (verse 7)?

6. What are brethren to do toward these type of people (verse 8)?

7. What ungodly attitudes and actions did Diotrephes display in the local church (verses 9-10)?

8. What are brethren to imitate and why (verse 11)?

9. What did Demetrius have (verse 12)?

10. Why did John not want to write more than he did (verses 13-14)?

11. What closing benediction did John give and who sent their greetings (verse 14; verse 15 in some newer versions)?

• Digging Deeper

1. Who is “the elder” and who is Gaius (verse 1)?

2. What does “the Name” refer to (verse 7)?

3. What’s the difference between 3 John 5-8 and 2 John 10-11?

4. What’s the difference between Gaius’ actions (verses 5-8) and Diotrephes’ actions (verses 9-10)?

5. What is “the church” in 3 John 9-10?

6. What does “prating” (KJV) mean (verse 10)?

• Applications for Today

(See Lesson 7 for several applications concerning love, truth, and joy.)

1. Do other parts of your life prosper just as your soul prospers (verse 2)? Can you honestly pray this prayer? What is the most important part of your life that you should take care of (Mt. 16:26; Lk. 12:20)?

2. We should be fellow-workers by supporting those who travel to preach God's word (verses 5-8). What did Jesus say about those who receive the apostles whom Jesus sent out to preach (Mt. 10:40-42; Jn. 13:20)? What reward do fellow-workers have (Phil. 4:3)?

3. Unfortunately, the spirit of Diotrephes lives on in some local churches today (verses 9-10). What is to be done with one who dominates and divides the local church (Tit. 3:10)? What problems are caused by empty gossip directed toward other brethren (Prov. 16:28; 18:8; 26:20, 22; 2 Cor. 12:20)?

4. We should imitate (lit. mimic) someone like Demetrius who was good and not someone like Diotrephes who was evil (verse 11). Whose example in the Bible (2 Thess. 3:7, 9) and in the local church (Heb. 13:7) should brethren imitate?

5. We should live in a good way that other brethren, and even the truth, can bear witness to our godly living (verse 12). What was one qualification of the men selected in Acts 6:3 that is related to this principle? What is one qualification of the elders that is related to this principle (1 Tim. 3:7)?