



3 John

Background

- 3 John is the shortest book in the Bible. It was written by the Apostle John between 85-95 AD.
- It is addressed to Gaius, who was likely one of John's coverts (4). Gaius regularly hosted itinerant preachers in his home (3, 5-6).
- John encouraged Gaius to receive Demetrius, the carrier of the letter (12). The letter was provoked by the proud actions of a church leader named Diotrephes, who turned away a previous letter and messenger sent by John.

Roadmap

1. **Gaius:** _____
the Truth (1-8)
2. **Diotrephes:** _____
the Truth (9-11)
 - A. Elevating preferences to doctrine.
(Rom. 14)
 - B. Excusing sin to shield leaders.
(1 Cor. 5)
 - C. Engendering division on the basis of personality.
(1 Cor. 1).
 - D. Excluding brothers to elevate self.
(3 John)
3. **Demetrius:** _____
the Truth (12-15)

Landmark

3 John is also about the essential relationship between truth and love. 2 John commends a loving truth. 3 John commends a truthful love.

Must See

The name of Jesus is the motivation that sent preachers and missionaries out into the world with no guarantee of earthly reward (7).

He is the true Preeminent One (Col. 1:18) who deserves all glory and demands all authority (9).

Takeaways

1. Discernment is _____ when truth is diluted, so make the truth your standard.
2. Loveless truth is as dangerous as _____ love, so make love your goal.
3. Only One is preeminent, so make _____ your focus.