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The Chapters of 3 John

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3 John

SECTION OUTLINE ONE (3 JOHN 1)

John addresses this epistle to an exhorter concerning an egotist and an example.

I. THE PERSEVERANCE OF GAIUS THE EXHORTER (1:1-8, 13-14)

A. John's prayer for Gaius (1:1-2): That his physical body will be as healthy as John knows his soul is.

B. John's praise of Gaius (1:3-8)

1. He has been faithful to God's message (1:3-4).

2. He has been faithful to God's messengers (1:5-8): Gaius has rendered much loving help to traveling teachers and missionaries.

C. John's plans concerning Gaius (1:13-14): He will visit him in the near future.

II. THE PRIDE OF DIOTREPHES THE EGOTIST (1:9-11)

A. The evil (1:9-10): John indicts this church member on six counts.

1. His demand to occupy the leading place (1:9a)

2. His refusal to receive John himself (1:9b)

3. His slander of the other apostles (1:10a)

4. His unwillingness to entertain missionaries (1:10b)

5. His attempts to excommunicate other believers (1:10c)

6. His utterly wicked character (1:10d)

B. The exhortation (1:11): "Don't let this bad example influence you."

III. THE PERSONAL TESTIMONY OF DEMETRIUS THE EXAMPLE (1:12)

A. His associates hold him in highest esteem (1:12a).

B. The apostle holds him in highest esteem (1:12b).

IV. JOHN'S BLESSING (1:15): "May God's peace be with you."