

3 JOHN – LESSON 12

I. EXPOSING DIOTREPHESES AND IMITATING DEMETRIUS (v. 9-14)

A. Diotrepthes exposed (v. 9-10).

1. Loves the preeminence among his brethren.
2. Doesn't receive God's messengers.
3. Upon John's arrival, he will remind people of Diotrepthes' harmful language towards God's messengers.
4. Forbids others to receive God's messengers.
5. Casts out of the church those who receive God's messengers.

B. Gaius encouraged to imitate good, not evil (v. 11).

1. Good is of God.
2. The one practicing evil has not seen God.

C. Demetrius is worthy of imitation (v. 12).

1. Good reputation among men in general
2. Good according to objective truth
3. Good according to the apostles

D. Final salutation (v. 13-14)

1. John has many things to discuss, but not by ink and pen.
2. Will discuss things shortly in Gaius' presence – face to face.
3. Well-wishes of peace with salutation from friends.
4. Gaius exhorted to salute the friends by name.

QUESTIONS :

1. What was the fundamental problem with Diotrepthes?
2. How were his actions different from Gaius'?
3. What **two characteristics** describe the words used by Diotrepthes toward John and his messengers?
4. How did Diotrepthes try to secure having his way in the church?
5. Where does "good" originate?

6. “He that doeth _____ hath not _____ God.”
Explain the meaning of the above statement:

7. What *three-fold testimony* stood behind the good character of Demetrius?

8. What does it mean to “*salute the friends by name*” ?