

## 3 JOHN

<sup>1</sup>From the elder, John.

To Gaius, dearly loved by God and whom I love in the truth.

<sup>2</sup>My dear friend, I pray that you might prosper in every way and enjoy good health, for all is well with your soul.

<sup>3</sup>It gave me great joy when some brothers came and testified that you live in the truth and told of how you continue to walk in the truth. <sup>4</sup>There can be no greater joy for me than to hear of my spiritual children walking in the truth.

<sup>5</sup>My dear friend, you prove yourself faithful whenever you serve your fellow believers, even though some are strangers to you. <sup>6</sup>They have told the church of your love. You will do well to send them on their way in a manner that is worthy of God. <sup>7</sup>For they have gone out for the sake of His Name, taking nothing from those to whom they witness. <sup>8</sup>We ought to support such men, for by so doing we work with them in promoting the truth.

<sup>9</sup>I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes does not want to receive us for he loves to be first, the most important one. <sup>10</sup>So if I do come I will confront what he is doing in speaking against us in such evil ways. Even that does not satisfy him, for he refuses to receive other believers and prevents anyone else from doing so, putting them out of the church instead.

<sup>11</sup>My dear friend, never imitate what is evil, only what is good. He who does good is of God; he who does evil has not seen God.

<sup>12</sup>Everyone speaks well of Demetrius, for he lives according to the truth. And I also speak well of him and I know that what I say is true.

<sup>13</sup>I want to write to you about many things, but cannot adequately express them with pen and ink. <sup>14</sup>But I hope to see you soon and then we can speak face to face.

May God's peace be with you. Give my love to all my friends, greeting them by name.

