3 John

The writer of this letter is John, one of Jesus Christ's twelve disciples. John has written this letter to a named person called Gaius (A very common name in the Roman world, just like John Smith in the British Isles today). It means "I am glad" or "on earth". He sends greetings (verses 1-2).

John shows great respect to Gaius because of being a faithful servant of God. John mentions two other people that are believers where he shows condemnation to Diotrephes and commendation to Demetrius. He gives Gaius an exhortation (**verse 11**) and concludes with his desire to see him.

Questions:

- 1) What are the main key words in this letter? One of them is mentioned in verses 1, 3, 4, 8 and 12.
- 2) Show the ways Gaius was seen to be a faithful servant of God. See verses 3-8.
- 3) What do we know of why Diotrephes was condemned? See verses 9 & 10. Examine his character.
- 4) What is known of Demetrius in verse 12?
- 5) How is God revealed in this letter in verse 11?
- 6) What evidence do we see of John's love for other believers?
- 7) What do 2 John and 3 John have in common? See 2 John 1, 12, 13 and 3 John 1, 13, 14.
- 8) What is meant by John's greeting to Gaius in verse 2?
- **9)** Does this letter show that some people became Christians through the ministry of John? See **verse 4**.
- **10)** Do you think this letter shows us the importance of supporting travelling Christian workers? See **verses 5-8**.
- **11)** Is it possible that Gaius was a member of the church where Diotrephes could have been an elder?
- **12)** Make a list of any warnings against what is revealed as evil in this letter.

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