

3 JOHN

PLAIN SENSE PARAPHRASE

5-3-2017

This letter is from John the elder unto the well-loved Gaius, a Christian brother I love in Christ.

2 My dear friend, I wish more than anything that you were as healthy physically as you are spiritually.

3 It made me so happy to learn from some traveling teachers of your steadfast walk with God. 4 Nothing makes me happier than to hear reports like that about those I have led to Christ.

5 Dear friend, you are being faithful to God when you care for the traveling teachers who pass through, even though they are strangers to you. 6 They have told the home group here of your generous kindness toward them. Please continue providing for such teachers in this godly manner. 7 For they are traveling for the Lord, and they accept nothing from people who are not believers. 8 So we ourselves should support them so that we can be their partners as they teach the truth.

9 I wrote to your home group about this, but Diotrephes, who loves to be the leader, refuses to have anything to do with us. 10 When I come, I will report some of the things he is doing and the evil accusations he is making against us. Not only does he refuse to welcome the traveling teachers, he also tells others not to help them. And when they do help, he puts them out of the home group.

11 Dear friend, don't let this bad example influence you. Follow only what is good. **Remember that those who do good prove that they are God's children, and those who do evil prove that they are not saved.**

12 Everyone speaks highly of Demetrius; the facts speak for themselves. We ourselves can say the same for him, and you know we speak the truth.

13 I have much more to say to you, but I don't want to write it with pen and ink. 14 For I hope to see you soon, and then we will talk face to face.

15 I wish you peace, brother.

Your friends here send you their greetings.

Please give my personal greetings to each of our friends there.