

## **3 JOHN - PERSONALITIES: WHOM DO YOU RESEMBLE?**

- Reflect that you are a true believer.

Love shows in your personal character,  
conduct and testimony!

# HOW DOES 3 JOHN FIT?

- Typical explanation of John's Epistles:
  - 1 John - how a person may know whether or not he has eternal life.
  - 2 John - welcoming and supporting false teachers / believers would make one a partaker of their evil deeds.
  - 3 John - welcoming and supporting teachers / believers of the truth make a person a partaker of their good works.

## 2 JOHN & 3 JOHN

The elder unto the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth;...

The elder unto the wellbeloved Gaius, whom I love in the truth. ...

# JESUS IS LIFE – BELIEVE HIM!

- John 20:30-31

And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: but these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name.

# OUR CONFIDENCE IN HIM

- 1 John 5:13

These things have I written unto you that believe in the name of the Son of God that ye may know that ye have eternal life.

## 2 JOHN:1 & 3 JOHN:1

The elder unto the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the (true belief / faith in Jesus Christ);...

The elder unto the wellbeloved Gaius, whom I love in the (true belief / faith in Jesus Christ). ...

## 2 JOHN:4 & 3 JOHN:4

I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth... (true belief / faith in Jesus Christ)

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth... (true belief / faith in Jesus Christ)

## 2 JOHN & 3 JOHN

Specific examples of true believers who love one another.

i.e. love specifically applied – what does it look like for the challenges of the time?



## 2 JOHN:4-6

I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in (true faith in Jesus Christ), as we have received a commandment from the Father. And now I beseech thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another. And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.

## 2 JOHN:7-9

For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

# TRUTH: JESUS IS THE GOD-MAN

- John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...

- John 1:14

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us...

# TRUTH: JESUS IS THE GOD-MAN

- 1 John 1:1-2

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;

## 2 JOHN – FOR THE SAKE OF THE TRUTH

- Reflect that you are walking in the true faith (of Jesus Christ).

❖ Love one another

but Reject false teachers

### **3 JOHN - PERSONALITIES: WHOM DO YOU RESEMBLE?**

- Reflect that you are walking in the true faith (of Jesus Christ).

Love shows in your personal character,  
conduct and testimony!

# Personalities: Whom do you resemble?

- Three main characters are mentioned:  
Gaius (v. 1),  
Diotrephes (v. 9), and  
Demetrius (v.12).

# I. The *Beloved* Christian - Gaius

## A. Precious Affection (v.1)

1. John calls recipient the “well-beloved” Gaius.
2. John loves him in the true faith.





# I. The *Beloved* Christian - Gaius

## B. Prosperous (v. 2)

1. Spiritually, Gaius was doing very well.
2. John prays for his physical well-being to be equal to his spiritual well-being.



# I. The *Beloved* Christian - Gaius

## C. Profitable (v.3, 5-8)

1. Possessed true belief
2. Practised true belief

Love in action, not just in talk.



# **PERSONALITIES: WHOM DO YOU RESEMBLE?**

- 3 John 5-8

Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren, and to strangers; Which have borne witness of thy charity before the church:...

# **PERSONALITIES: WHOM DO YOU RESEMBLE?**

- 3 John 5-8

...whom if thou bring forward on their journey after a godly sort, thou shalt do well because that for His name's sake they went forth, taking nothing of the Gentiles. We therefore ought to receive such, that we might be fellowhelpers to the truth.



## II. The *Bossy* – Diotrephes

### A. Proud in character

1. Wanted to be prominent in position / say – “pre-eminent”

## **PERSONALITIES: WHOM DO YOU RESEMBLE?**

- John Newton

“I have read of many wicked popes, but the worst pope I ever met with is Pope Self.”

- Martin Luther

“I am more afraid of my own heart than of the pope and all his cardinals. I have within me the great pope, Self.”



## II. The *Bossy* – Diotrephes

### A. Proud in character

1. Wanted to be prominent in position / say – “pre-eminent”
2. One cause of church / home problems.
3. No respect for the dignity or authority of apostle / elder.



## II. The *Bossy* – Diotrephes

### B. Poor in conduct

– His speech was evil (v.10)

1. “Prating” - i.e. bring an unjustified charge against

2. “Malicious” - i.e. active evil.





## II. The *Bossy* – Diotrephes

- His acts were also evil:
  1. Refused to entertain needy brothers / itinerant teachers,
  2. Excommunicated those who did so.

# **PERSONALITIES: WHOM DO YOU RESEMBLE?**

- 3 John 11

Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.

# III. The *Beautiful* Christian – Demetrius (v. 12)

A. Praiseworthy.

1. “All men”

2. “Truth itself”

3. “We also”

B. Probably bearer of letter.



# **PERSONALITIES: WHOM DO YOU RESEMBLE?**

- Reflect that you are a true believer.

Love shows in your personal character,  
conduct and testimony!