

Union Chapel M.B. Church

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3 JOHN

(Resources: The Bible Exposition of the New Testament, Volume II: Ephesians – Revelation and Wilmington Guide to the Bible)

Every church should be led by godly leaders whose main concerns are to walk in true fellowship with God and to equip and support the saints. Unfortunately, some church leaders are more concerned with their own self-image than with what is best for the church as a whole. Third John provides a window into the early church at the close of the first century that was in the midst of a struggle between godly and ungodly leaders.

A. Gaius the Encourager, 1-8

- a. Spiritual health
- b. A good testimony – God’s truth
- c. Practical motivations to ministry:
 - i. honors God
 - ii. support of God’s servants is a witness to the lost
 - iii. serving is obedience to God
 - iv. fellow helpers to the truth

B. Diotrephes the Egotist, 9-10

- a. Attempted to occupy the leading place
- b. Refused to receive John the apostle
- c. Slandered the apostles
- d. Refused to entertain missionaries
- e. Attempted to excommunicate believers

C. Demetrius the Example, 11-12

- a. Truth talking
- b. Truth walking

D. John’s Ending, 13-14

Notes: