

Why Were Gaius And Demetrius Right?

I. Introduction:

A. In previous lessons, we learned of the errors of Diotrophes (**III John 1:9-10**).

1. We saw an example of a man being marked [noted] for his sinful; divisive behaviors (**Romans 16:17-18**).
2. In contrast, it is good to consider that the faithful can be marked for good behaviors (**Philippians 3:13-21**).

B. It is good for us to identify and recognize the difference between the faithful and the unfaithful, knowing who to properly imitate (**III John 1:11**).

1. Once proven faithful, we can help ourselves by following the example of those that are living aright (**II Thessalonians 3:7**).
2. Of course, there is a qualifier (**I Corinthians 11:1**).
3. The question for me, you, us - can we be followed (**Titus 2:1-8**)?

II. Body: Consider Gaius And Demetrius (**III John 1:1-8; 12**).

A. Gaius [*seemingly a common name; Acts 19:29, Acts 20:4, Romans 16:23, and I Corinthians 1:14*] was well reported of (**I Thessalonians 3:6-9**) and therefore could be depended on (i.e. **Acts 16:1-5**).

1. The truth was in him (**Colossians 3:16, I John 2:14, and I John 2:24**).
2. He walked in the truth (**I John 2:3-6** and **II John 1:4**; cf. **Psalms 86:11**).

B. Gaius behaved faithfully, lovingly, godly towards brethren that journeyed his way (**Romans 12:13** and **I Peter 4:8-11**).

1. Those brethren spoken of, whether known or strangers, were said to have turned to the saints rather than to the Gentiles for "His name's sake"; this tells us we are talking of faithful brethren (**Romans 16:1-2**).
2. In contrast to Diotrophes, Gaius received faithful brethren as he should have (**Romans 15:5-7** and **Colossians 4:10**).
3. Can faithful brethren know we'll look out for them (**Matthew 25:31-46**)?
4. In Gaius we learn that receiving faithful brethren, which Diotrophes refused to do, makes us fellowhelpers to the truth (**I Corinthians 16:10-11** and **II Corinthians 8:16-24**).

C. Demetrius had a good report of all men, including the faithful whose record was true (**Proverbs 22:1**)?

1. Beyond men, the truth testified of Demetrius' faithfulness (**John 3:19-21**; cf. **Luke 4:4**).
2. Learn in Demetrius to live in a way that the word of God shows you to be faithful (**Genesis 6:22, Psalms 119:9-16, Luke 6:43-49, and I John 3:1-10**)?

III. Conclusion: "*Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace*" (**Psalms 37:37**).