

3 Jn 1: ~~1-7~~ 1-7
"Living With Confidence"

Sun Night
2-12-2023

1. Introduction
 - a. 3 John written during reign of Domitian Roman emperor
 - b. Towards end of apostolic age
 - already false teachings & heresies beginning to erupt in the churches
 - always men who are wolves among the flock of Christian sheep
 - c. Three characteristics of a church walking in truth
2. Characteristic of love of the Church
 - a. Love among people of local church
 - b. John the Apostle now in office of the church elder
 - c. Gaius is beloved by John
 - John loves Gaius in (the) truth
 - Gaius common name in Roman
 - several different men named Gaius in book Acts
 - 1 Jn 1:5
3. Revealed by John to Gaius
 - a. Rejoicing with Gaius in life events
 - John wanted ~~to~~ Gaius to prosper in all things
 - Gaius to be in good health
 - John wanted Gaius to have his soul to prosper
 - b. John's desire for Gaius to receive God's blessings
 - c. Reported by the brethren
 - brothers & sisters in Christ
 - * family & body of Christ
 - other church members report of Gaius walking in the truth
 - * Gaius preaching & living the truth
 - these testimonies brought joy to John
 - * what kind of love?
 - * agape love / self sacrificing love / God's love

4. Second Characteristic is Joy of the Apostle John
- Greater Joy that Apostle/Elder John has to hear his spiritual children walking (living) in truth
 - John's fatherly affection
 - "my children"
 - 1 Cor 4: 14-15 my beloved children ... birthed spiritual children through the gospel
 - * many instructors in Christ
 - John's subsequent joy
 - his spiritual children making his heart glad

5. Third Characteristic of Service of a Leader
- Joy is Jesus, Others, You
 - serving Jesus first, serving others 2nd, & yourself last
 - Leader given to hospitality
 - serving Christians & strangers
 - also sending people forward on their journey in Godly manner
 - Other Christians & visitors
 - witness of love of Gaius in the church
 - any church will gain a certain reputation based on behavior of their Christian members
 - Rom 12:13 given to hospitality, distributing to needs of the saints
 - Leader encourages gospel workers
 - why do churches send people on their way in Godly hospitality?
 - * workers can minister taking nothing from the Gentiles
 - * workers give freely of themselves not taking people's money