

"The Household of Truth"

3 John

// to 2 John - brief letter - single sheet of papyrus

SIMILAR PROBLEM - visit of itinerate teachers / their reception

NEVER KNOW - YWAM team - Street person came along too!

2 JOHN - TO CHURCH - personified as elect lady - BE CAREFUL

3 JOHN - TO CHURCH LEADER - Gaius - BE HOSPITABLE

BALANCE OF TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE / INTERPRET SCRIPTURE BY SCRIPTURE

1. A Christian Friend vs. 1 - 8

"Gaius" several named in NT - 1 Cor 1.14, Rom 16.23, Acts 19.29

NAME AS COMMON IN ROMAN WORLD AS "John Smith" on Mainland

a. Holy v. 2

PROBLEMS WITH PROSPERITY GOSPEL "Jesus wants you healthy and rich

1) OT Promises of Prosperity - ISRAEL SYMBOLIC COMMUNITY - Heaven

2) Blind to great suffering/needs of 3rd World Christians

3) Ignorant of NT emphasis on Suffering - follow Crucified Master

4) Don't acknowledge FAITH AS GIFT - NOT HEALED BY OUR FAITH

v. 2 "Soul getting along well - body may not be"

CHARACTERISTICS OF BIBLICAL HEALING

1) Validates the Message of God

2) SPONTANEOUS - not a healing service next Wednesday

3) ALWAYS WORKS - God is Omnipotent

4) TEMPORARY - they all eventually died of some other cause
THE LIVING GOD - CAN AND DOES - HEAL TODAY

Šb. Faithful vs. 1,3-5,14 Galatians 6.9 1 Peter 4.19,5.12

MEASURE OF "SUCCESS" - NOT JUST NUMBERS, STATISTICS

Gal 6.9 "do not grow weary in well doing"

MISSIONARIES TO ARAB WORLD - FEW CONVERTS

Samuel Zwemer "The Apostle to Islam"

BROKE HARD GROUND - UNDERSTANDING, STUDIED, PRAYER RESIVOIR

Motto "the glory of the impossible

c. Hospitable vs. 6-8 Romans 12.13 2 Corinth 9.7

1 Peter 4.9 "offer hospitality to one another w/out grumbling"

A GREAT BLESSING - ESPECIALLY WITH SMALL CHILDREN

AFRICANS - OPEN HOMES/HEARTS - NO MATERIAL WEALTH (1 chair, cup)

TEAM FROM PENNSYLVANIA IN JULY

MISSIONARY APARTMENT

Their giving testified to:

1) Glory to God v. 6

SEND THEM ON THEIR WAY WELL SUPPLIED

"Makes God BIG in the eyes of others" - IS YOUR GOD WORTH THAT??

HARD WORK DONE FOR THE HCS MAY DAY PROGRAM

2) Witness to Lost v. 7

GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD DO ALL THEY CAN TO SUPPORT HIS WORK

Gal 6.10 do good to all people, especially the household of faith

MAKE CLEAR IN TO ALL THAT SALVATION IS NOT FOR SALE - FREE GIFT

JUST BECAUSE THEY RECEIVED NO "PAGAN MONEY" MUST WE

MOST OF WHAT WE RECEIVE IS PAGAN MONEY - SECULAR BUSINESS

BE HIS WITNESS - LIKE ABRAHAM, CHILDREN OF ISRAEL - EGYPTIANS

Š3) Obedience to God v. 8 "we ought to show hospitality"

Romans 12.13 "Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality"

2. A Christian Fraud vs. 9 - 10

MAIN PURPOSE OF LETTER - John to expose Diotrephes to Gaius

39 of Anglican Church - Art. 26 "in the visible church the evil will be ever mingled with the good"

Jesus "the wheat and tares grow together"

DIOTREPHES - LEADER OF CONGREGATION - REJECTS APOSTOLIC AUTHORITY

a. # 1 Alone v. 9 Mark 10.42-45 Coloss 1.18 1 Peter 5.3

BIG FISH IN A SMALL POND // ONLY PERSON IN HIS WORLD - 1st place

NEWLY PROMOTED ARMY COLONEL - SAT IN BIG NEW OFFICE

KNOCK ON THE DOOR - WANTED TO LOOK IMPORTANT

LOWLY PRIVATE WALKED IN - PICKED UP THE PHONE

"yes sir, General, I will call the President this afternoon"
NOW WHAT ARE YOU HERE FOR PRIVATE "I came to hook up the phone!"

Coloss 1.18 "in all things, Christ pre-eminent"

1 Pet 5.3 "do not lord your authority over the flock"

WE HAVE MADE SUPERSTARS OUT OF OUR CHRISTIAN LEADERS

NOT ACCOUNTABLE - FALL INTO SIN

Bishop Festo Kivengere - Church of Uganda

PALM SUNDAY - Great shouting crowd praised Jesus

DONKEY NEVER IMAGINED IT WAS FOR HIM

"I want to be the donkey Jesus rides, so He gets all the glory"

Šb. Slanderous v. 10a Galatians 5.15 1 Tim 5.13 James 3.5,6,9,10

v. 10 "gossiping maliciously about us"

PUTS HIMSELF UP BY TEARING OTHERS DOWN - THE BLACK CRAB

Gal 5.15 "if you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch
out or you will be destroyed by each other"

BEST WAY TO STOP GOSSIP - DON'T LISTEN TO IT

James 3.6 "the tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the
parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole
course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell"

v. 10 "with the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it
we curse men who have been made in God's likeness...my brothers,
this should not be"

c. Selfish v. 10b Matt 10.8 John 3.30 2 Tim 4.14

"refuses to welcome the brothers, and stops others who want to"

at 20 - we worry about what people think of us
at 40 - we don't care what people think of us
at 60 - we find out no one has been thinking of us at all

3. A Christian Follower vs. 11 - 12

Demetrius - there are "a few good men"

a. Seen by Men v. 11 Matt 5.14 Acts 4.13

Matt 5.14 "a city set on a hill cannot be hidden"

REALITY OF CHRIST IN HIS LIFE

JOHN WAS NOT ADVOCATING PEACE AT ANY PRICE

b. Seen by God v. 12 John 21.24

2 Tim 2.19 "the Lord knows those who are his"

GOOD WORKS DONE IN SECRET ARE SEEN BY GOD

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DON'T BLOW YOUR OWN TRUMPET -
LET SOMEONE ELSE BLOW IT AND THE SOUND TRAVELS TWICE AS FAR

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE THREE PEOPLE??

HOW MUCH ARE WE WILLING TO LET CHRIST CHANGE US??

KID JUMPING UP AND DOWN BACKSTAGE "I can't help it" RIGHT! GOD!