



# A Life that Prospers Spiritually

3<sup>rd</sup> John 1-11

# Our reputation..

The estimation others have of you..

- What do you think of yourself?
- What do others think about you?
- What does God think about you?

# John's letter to Gaius

A unique look at two very different men..

- Gaius – a righteous man
  - Filled with good works
  - Known for love for the truth
  - Loves his brethren, hospitality
- Diotrophes – loves himself
  - Wants to have preeminence
  - Refuses faithful brethren

# Gaius..

3 John 1-2 The Elder, To the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth: <sup>2</sup> Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.

- John loves him in truth
- John prays for him physically
- Doesn't need to pray for him spiritually

## Gaius life of truth..

3 John 3-4 For I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and testified of the truth *that is* in you, just as you walk in the truth. <sup>4</sup> I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

- The truth was in him
- He was walking in the truth
- No greater joy for John

## Gaius and the brethren..

3 John 5-6 Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the brethren and for strangers, <sup>6</sup> who have borne witness of your love before the church. *If* you send them forward on their journey in a manner worthy of God, you will do well,

- Gaius was known for his hospitality
- To his brethren, even to strangers
- He taught and practiced the truth

## Gaius and the brethren..

3 John 7-8 because they went forth for His name's sake, taking nothing from the Gentiles. <sup>8</sup> We therefore ought to receive such, that we may become fellow workers for the truth.

- These men went out for Jesus' name
- At their own expense
- These men are worthy of support

## The opposite character..

3 John 9-10 I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, does not receive us. <sup>10</sup> Therefore, if I come, I will call to mind his deeds which he does, prating against us with malicious words. And not content with that, he himself does not receive the brethren, and forbids those who wish to, putting *them* out of the church.



## The Choice for us..

3 John 11 Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. He who does good is of God, but he who does evil has not seen God.



# A Life that Prospers Spiritually

3<sup>rd</sup> John 1-11