

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Date: **March 29, 2023**

Study: "Balancing Truth and Love"

Fall Study: Standing Fast in the Last Days: A Study of 2 Peter, 2 & 3 John, and Jude

MAIN BODY OF 2ND JOHN (vss. 4-6 and 7-11).

1. Part One: The **INNER** life of the church (4-6).

The Message: walk in Truth and Love (vss. 4-6). "Truth" appears 5x (1-4); & "Love" appears 5x (vss. 1-6).

2. Part 2: The **DOCTRINAL DANGER** from false teachers threatening the local assembly (7-11).
John's message: *Make sure your love has limits*. Love is not a naïve, uncritical, undiscerning acceptance of anyone who claims to represent Jesus Christ. Our love must be controlled by truth & discernment. We must not "aid and abet" the enemy.

A. Their **REALITY** (presence) . . . both then and now.

B. Their _____. They went out from the _____.

C. Their _____.

D. Their _____.

John pointed out three dangers the church and its members face because of deceivers in the world.

1) The danger of _____ (v. 8)

2) The danger of _____ (v. 9)

3) The danger of _____ (vv. 10, 11)

E. The _____. Be grounded in the truth so that we can be discerning.

What are the fundamentals?

"THREE MEN AND A CHURCH" – A Study of Third John

1. Subject: _____.

A. In 2nd John the church is warned not to extend hospitality to false teachers who deny the doctrine of the incarnation and diminish/pervert the person of Jesus Christ.

B. In 3rd John "the elder" commends Gaius for the hospitality he has shown to teachers of the truth, urges him to continue it, and sharply rebukes Diotrephes for his refusal to welcome them and for his opposition to those who wished to.

2. Background:

A. Three men: _____ (1); _____ (9); _____ (12).

B. Two (Gaius & Diotrephes) are members of the _____ church? See verse 9.
"Demetrius" = a travelling teacher/missionary; emissary of "the elder" (John); and bearer of the letter.

3. The _____ of Gaius and Demetrius (vss. 1-8, 12).

A. John's _____ for Gaius (vs. 1)

B. John's _____ for Gaius (vs. 2)

"that you may enjoy good health & that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well."

C. John's _____ for Gaius (vss. 3-8)

1) He has been _____ to God's message (vss. 3, 4)

a) Remained _____ to the truth

b) Continued to _____ in the truth

2) He has shown _____ to God's messengers (vss. 5-8, 12)

What's the motivation for this practical ministry to the saints?

a) It _____ God (vs. 6)

b) It is a _____ to the lost (vs. 7)

c) It is a matter of _____ to God (vs. 8a)

d) We help _____ the truth (vs. 8b)

4. The _____ of Diotrephes (vss. 9-11).

A. His personal _____ (vs. 9). "Loves to be first" (present tense = continually)

B. His perverted _____ (vss. 9, 10)

John wrote, "If I come, I will call attention to what he is doing." John indicted Diotrephes on 4 counts. In each one, the present tense of the verb indicates that these were continual/habitual behaviors.

1) He would not _____ John (vs. 9)

2) He _____ about John (vs. 10a)

3) He _____ John's associates (vs. 10b)

4) He _____ those who disagreed with him (vs. 10c)

SOME TAKE AWAYS

1. The workman is _____ of his _____ (Luke 10:7; 1 Tim. 5:17-18).

2. Make sure your _____ has _____ (2 John 7-11).

3. Am I a part of the _____, or part of the _____ (cp. 1 Cor. 11:19).

4. A healthy form of church _____, and a godly plurality of _____. ("overseers" and "deacons" – Phil. 1:1) will go a long way in preventing men like Diotrephes from causing damage in a local church.

1) We have a _____ form of church government.

2) Our church has _____ pastors (elders/overseers) and _____ deacons.

3) Every congregation has a resp. to _____ God ordained leadership (Heb. 13:17).

4) At McCoy, the pastor(s) & deacons are under the _____ of & _____ to the membership of McCoy.