

### 3 John Verse by Verse

#### Verses 3-4

1. John had heard about what Gaius was going through, so he wrote a personal letter to him. Notice verse 13. It must have been an urgent situation, so John fires off a quick memo to express his love and encouragement and says, "I'll see you soon."
2. What an encouragement it must have been to Gaius when he read these verses 3-4.
3. If Gaius had in fact been excommunicated from the church for helping other suffering believers, he could have possibly doubted himself. So John writes this letter and says, "Hang in there. **You** are the one doing right. You are walking in truth."
4. In the last days, many will fall away from God's truth. There will be a major apostasy that takes place. Those who cling to truth will be in the minority.  
2 Thessalonians 2:8-12
5. In the book of 1 John, John gives the little flock of Israel a series of tests that will help them to distinguish between the false and the genuine. 1 John 2:18-22, 26-27
  - These tests will help them to mark those who oppose Messiah and help to identify the true little flock, the believing remnant.
6. John encourages Gaius by saying, "Others may have opposed you and what you're doing, but I am rejoicing, and so is the true little flock. You are walking in truth. Hang in there. I am proud of you."
7. John says that he has no greater joy than to hear that his children walk in truth. Again we see that **truth** is what identifies God's flock, not material prosperity or physical health. Is a person walking in truth? That will be the key question in the last days.
  - It is not about their talk, but their walk. 1 John 2:3-6
8. In this dispensation of grace, the key to living the Christ-life is the receiving and believing of truth. 1 Thessalonians 2:13

#### Verse 5

1. Gaius had a powerful hospitality ministry. He had been a great blessing to brethren (Jews he knew personally) and strangers in need. Deuteronomy 10:18-19
2. In the last days, many believers will not be able to buy or sell. Jesus said that many in Israel will have to flee and scatter when the antichrist proclaims himself to be God. There will be an urgent need for food and shelter for many.
3. Jesus warned the little flock that they will be kicked out of their homes, and family members will turn on them. Who will help the scattered flock? People like Gaius!
4. Gaius is a living example of the hospitality commands we read. Hebrews 13:1-2; James 2:14-16; 1 Peter 4:8-9
5. In the last days, it won't just be a matter of being unemployed, not having AC, or going without a car. It will be survival mode. Matthew 10:21-23

6. The little flock will pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." How does God answer their prayer? Through people like Gaius. Matthew 10:40-42
7. Jesus promised that if a person or nation helped those in need in the last days, they will be allowed entrance into the kingdom and will receive it back with interest (Matthew 25:31-40 cf. Matthew 19:29-30)! Those who are rich in the last days and will not share will have nothing when the kingdom arrives. Those who give away everything to help others and are last will be rewarded in the kingdom.