

# Third John

## 3 Jn. 1:9-14



Sonship



Fellowship



Fruitfulness



3 Jn. 1:9 I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not.

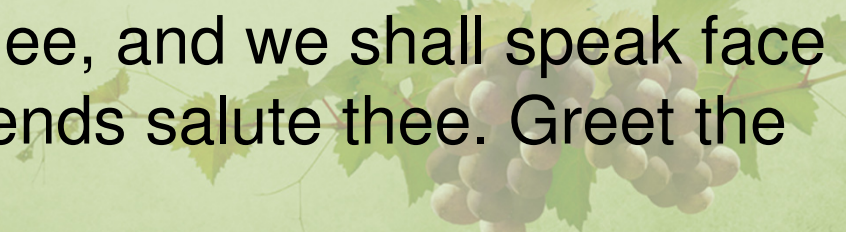
10 Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church.

11 **Beloved**, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.

12 Demetrius hath good report of all men, and of the truth itself: yea, and we also bear record; and ye know that our record is true.

13 I had many things to write, but I will not with ink and pen write unto thee:

14 But I trust I shall shortly see thee, and we shall speak face to face. Peace be to thee. Our friends salute thee. Greet the friends by name.



## Review

### I. THE VIRTUOUS PASTOR, 1:1-4

- A. John's devotion to him. 1:1
- B. John's desire for him, 1:2
- C. John's delight in him, 1:3-4

Because of...

- 1. The reputation Gaius had, 1:3
- 2. The relationship Gaius had, 1:4

### II. THE VISITING PREACHER, 1:5-8

- A. Recognizing him, 1:5
- B. Refreshing him, 1:6-7
  - 1. A privilege extended, 1:6
  - 2. A principle extolled, 1:7
- C. Receiving him, 1:8





### III. THE VAINGLORIOUS POPE, 1:9-11

#### A. His pride, 1:9

3 Jn. 1:9 I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not.

Original Word: φιλοπρωτεύω

Transliteration: philopróteuó

Definition: I love the chief place, desire preeminence.

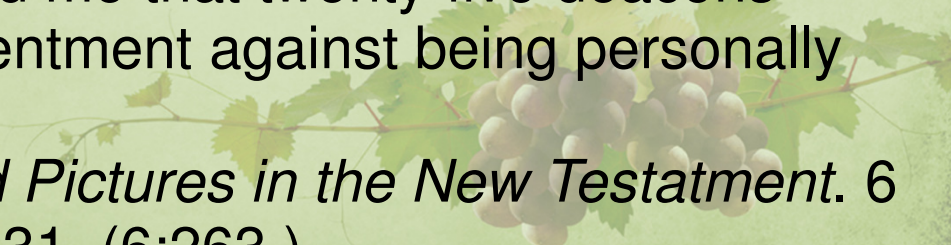
<http://biblehub.com/greek/5383.htm>

“...to be fond of being first...”

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=G5383&t=KJV>

"Some forty years ago I wrote an article on Diotrephes for a denominational paper. The editor told me that twenty-five deacons stopped the paper to show their resentment against being personally attacked in the paper."

Robertson, Archibald Thomas. *Word Pictures in the New Testament*. 6 vols. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1931. (6:263.)



Original Word: ἐπιδέχομαι

Transliteration: epidechomai

Definition: I accept, admit, welcome.

*epidéxomai* (from *επί*, "on, fitting" and *δέχομαι*, "welcome") – properly, receive (welcome) *upon*, emphasizing what naturally *builds on* the welcoming (note the prefix *epi*, *upon*).

*epidéxomai* ("welcoming with its effects") is negated both times it occurs in the NT (3 Jn 9-10). This envisions all the "nasty spin-offs" that went with Diotrephes *refusing* to "aptly welcome" people into his local church.

B. His presumption, 1:10a “Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words...”





Mt. 18:17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

Luke 6:22 Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake.

1 Cor. 5:2 And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.

1 Tim. 5:20 Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.





Original Word: φλυαρέω

Transliteration: phluareó

Definition: I gossip against, talk idly, make empty charges against, talk nonsense. (“prating against”)

*phlyaréō* (from *phlýaros*, "to bubble up, boil over") – overflowing with speech "that is *fluent but empty*" (*WS*, 562). It is used only in 3 Jn 10 <http://biblehub.com/greek/5396.htm>

### C. His practice, 1:10b-11

1. Condemned, 1:10b “...and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church.”



## 2. Contrasted, 1:11

3 Jn. 1:11 Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.

## IV. THE VALUED PARTNER, 1:12

3 Jn. 1:12 Demetrius hath good report of all men, and of the truth itself: yea, and we also bear record; and ye know that our record is true.

## V. THE VIGILANT PRESBYTER, 1:13-14

### A. He had so much to say, 1:13

3 Jn. 1:13 I had many things to write, but I will not with ink and pen write unto thee:





## B. He was coming that way, 1:14

3 Jn. 1:14 But I trust I shall shortly see thee, and we shall speak face to face. Peace be to thee. Our friends salute thee. Greet the friends by name.







## Conclusion

"The lifestyle that we exhibit is a direct reflection of the extent to which we have seen God. If we were to see God perfectly, we would never sin. Our sin is a result of a faulty vision of God. Therefore, the Scriptures encourage us to look at Christ (see 2 Cor. 3:18; 4:16-18 Heb. 12:2, 3), for the day when we see Him perfectly will be the day that we will be like Him (see 1 John 3:2, 3)."

Robert N. Wilkin, "He Who Does Good Is of God (3 John 11)," *Grace Evangelical Society News* 5:9 (September 1990):2





2 Cor. 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

2 Cor. 4:16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.





Heb. 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

1 Jn. 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.