

3 Men in 3rd John

The Apostle John writes about three men in his third epistle: Gaius, Diotrephes, and Demetrius. Two of these men had a positive character and one had a negative character.

Gaius was the man who would **PROSPER** in all things. John prayed that Gaius would prosper both physically and spiritually (v. 2). John rejoiced for Gaius walking in truth (vv. 3-4). John commended Gaius for his hospitality and support of truthful teachers (vv. 5-8).

Diotrephes was the man who would be **PREEMINENT** over all others. He was a self-promoter (v. 9), insubordinate (v. 9), slanderous (v. 10), and vindictive (v. 10).

Demetrius was the man who would be a **PATTERN** to all. He had a good report from the brethren, from the truth, and from the Apostles (v. 12).

Yes, members in a local church are often different. What kind of member are you? Are you prospering in what counts in the local church? Are you seeking preeminence over others in the local church? Are you setting a good example for all in the local church? - *Chris Reeves*

Sentence Sermons

- To learn God's will we must listen to God's word.
- If we are willing to count the cost, we will not forget the lost.
- Fellas, don't seek to be a "man's man," seek to be a God's man.
- It's hard to gossip when there's no one around to listen to it.
- Overcome evil with good.

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ
290 Warfield Blvd.
Clarksville, TN 37043

Website
wbcoc.org

Assembly Times
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm
Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome!
For More Information Call
(931) 647-1324

Published and Edited By
Chris Reeves
(615) 389-3250
chrisreevesmail@gmail.com
TheGoodTeacher.com

THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

June 14, 2020



For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

To Obey Is Better

Many religious people today believe in God, but they would rather do what they want instead of obey God. This was the approach of King Saul in 1 Samuel 15. Samuel told Saul, “to obey is better than sacrifice...” (1 Samuel 15:22). Let us examine why it is better to obey God.

Obedience is better than hearing only. Many will sit and listen to God’s word, but not obey it (Ezekiel 33:30-33; Mark 4:14-20; 10:22; Hebrews 4:2). They will say, “Good sermon preacher”! But, we must hear and obey the word of God (Matthew 7:24; James 1:22-25).

Obedience is better than faith only. Many love God and have faith in God, but they do not obey God (James 2:14-19). They say, “I believe what the Bible says...” But, we must have a faith that obeys (Romans 1:5; 16:26; Galatians 5:6; James 2:20-26).

Obedience is better than knowing. Many know what is in the word of God, but they will not obey it (James 4:17). They say, “I know what the Bible says...” But, we must know and do God’s word (Matthew 7:21;

12:50; 21:31).

Obedience is better than partial obedience. Lot’s wife obeyed partially, but not all the way, and she was punished for it (Genesis 19:17,26). The Jews of Jesus’ day obeyed some things, but not all things (Matthew 23:23). Some say, “Look at what I’ve already done...” But, we must obey all things in the NT that are for Christians today (Matthew 28:20; 2 Corinthians 2:9; James 2:10).

Obedience is better than religion only. Many will be religious and do religious things, but they will not obey God (Acts 17:22-23). Many of the Jews were religious but did not obey God (Zephaniah 3:1-4; Matthew 15). Some say, “I love Jesus ... praise God!” But, we must obey God in order to be his people (Exodus 19:5-6; Jeremiah 11:4; Luke 6:46).

Obedience is better than substitution. Nadab and Abihu substituted instead of obeying God (Leviticus 10). Naaman wanted to substitute instead of obeying God (2 Kings 5). Some say, “I want to do it my way...” But, we must not add to, or take from the word of God (Deuteronomy 4:2; 12:32; Proverbs 30:6; Revelation 22:17-19).

Obedience is better than rebellion. Old Testament Israel rebelled through presumption (Deuteronomy 1:26,43; 9:43). Moses rebelled through substitution (Numbers 20:10,24; 27:14). Some say, “I don’t have to do what God says...” But, we must obey and not rebel (Hebrews 4:11; Titus 3:3-5).

Obedience is better than pleasing others. Many, like King Saul, act in order to please others rather than to obey God (1 Samuel 15:24; Galatians 5:7-12). They say, “I have friends and family that believe...” But, we must obey God rather than men (Acts 5:29; Galatians 1:10; Eph. 6:6).

Friend, the fact is, to obey God is better. Anything short of complete obedience to God is rebellion and stubbornness (sin). God does not accept anything short of complete obedience to his word. All those who do not obey the gospel will be punished (2 Thessalonians 1:8). Jesus is the author of eternal salvation to all who obey him (Hebrews 5:9). Knowing this, will you obey God today before it is everlasting too late?

- Chris Reeves -