Open English Translation of the Bible

The third letter
that we have written by
Yohan (John)

Introduction

The author

This the third letter we have that was written by Yohan, one of the twelve apprentices who spent the most time with Yeshua.

This letter

This letter was sent to one of Yohan's friends named Gaios. Yohan praises Gaios for the way he'd looked after other believers and for his living out God's truth. Yohan also warns Gaios about a person named Diotrefes who was opposing the believers.

Main components of Yohan's letter

Greetings *1-4*
Praising Gaios *5-8*
Scolding Diotrefes *9-10*
Boasting about Demetrios *11-12*
The closing *13-15*

Lighter type marks additions. Underscores join parts of a single source word.
Struck words are untranslated. The ◘ sign marks a verse with no text.
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Readers' Version

1:1 This letter is from Yohan (John; Grk. Yoannes) the elder to my dear friend Gaios[1] who I love because we both follow the truth.

2 My dear friend, I trust that you are healthy and doing well in everything just as you are also doing well spiritually. **3** I was very happy when some of our spiritual brothers came and told us about your faithfulness to the truth and how you are living it out. **4** Nothing makes me more happy than hearing that other believers that I've helped are living out the truth.

Praising Gaios

5 My dear friend, you are faithful in what you do for other believers. Even strangers **6** have told the assembly about your caring for them before sending them on. Your actions will be praised by **God** **7** because they went out to serve God, not getting any help from the unbelievers. **8** We should be supporting believers like them so that we may also become their workmates in sharing the truth.

Diotrefes and Demetrios

9 I wrote something to the assembly, but Diotrefes won't listen to us—he always wants the limelight for himself. **10** Because of that, if I do end up coming, I will be reminding him about what he's been doing—rambling on against us with evil talks, and then, not being happy with that, he doesn't accept other believers and expels them from the assembly then forbids others from accepting them either.

11 My dear friend, don't copy the evil things that others do, just the good things. Anyone who does what is good belongs to **God**—anyone who does evil things has not seen **God**.

12 Demetrios has been talked about by everyone and even the truth itself speaks. We have also spoken about him, and you know that what we say is true.

Closing

13 I had many things I wanted to write about, but won't do it by means of ink and pen, **14** but instead I hope to see you soon and then we can speak face to face.

15 Wishing all peace and happiness for you. Your friends here also greet you. Please greet our friends there by name.

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1 **RV 1 · Cross-ref.** Acts 19:29; Rom 16:23; 1Cor 1:14.