

Third John

3 John 1 – “The elder to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth.”

3588 [e]	4245 [e]	1050 [e]	3588 [e]	27 [e]	3739 [e]	1473 [e]	25 [e]	1722 [e]	225 [e]				
Ho	presbyteros	Gaiō	tō	agapētō	hon	egō	agapō	en	alētheia				
1	Ὁ	πρεσβύτερος	,	Γαίῳ	τῷ	ἀγαπητῷ	,	ὃν	ἐγὼ	ἀγαπῶ	ἐν	ἀληθείᾳ	.
The	elder	To Gaius	the	beloved	whom	I	love	in	truth				
Art-NMS	Adj-NMS	N-DMS	Art-DMS	Adj-DMS	RelPro-AMS	PPro-N1S	V-PIA-1S	Prep	N-DFS				

1. “Gaius” (pronounced /gay-us/ or /gi-us/ or /g-eye-us/) was a common name.
2. He may have been a leader in the church, but it seems he is most noted for living in the truth and for his hospitality. He is not known for his leadership in this letter.
3. It is possible he was an older man living in a rural area and not able (due to health or age) attend the local church. He seems to have been unaware of certain people, attitudes and events in the “city”. Nor, does John ask Gaius to deal with these situations, but merely be aware of what is going on. Most likely John doesn’t want Gaius’s good will to be exploited by Diotrefes and good men like Demetrius rejected.
4. John is known to Gaius as “the elder” and Gaius may not have spoken to John on a first name basis since John would be an honored superior.

3 John 2 – “Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul.”

27 [e]	4012 [e]	3956 [e]	2172 [e]	4771 [e]	2137 [e]	2532 [e]	5198 [e]	2531 [e]	2137 [e]				
Agapēte	peri	pantōn	euchomai	se	euodousthai	kai	hygiainein	kathōs	euodoutai				
2	Ἀγαπητέ	,	περὶ	πάντων	εὐχομαί	σε	εὐοδοῦσθαι	καὶ	ὑγιαίνειν	,	καθὼς	εὐοδοῦται	.
Beloved	concerning	all things	I pray	you	to prosper	and	to be in good health	just as	prosper				
Adj-VMS	Prep	Adj-GNP	V-PIM/P-1S	PPro-A2S	V-PNM/P	Conj	V-PNA	Adv	V-PIM/P-3S				

4771 [e]	3588 [e]	5590 [e]	
sou	hē	psychē	
σου	ἡ	ψυχῆ	.
your	-	soul	
PPro-G2S	Art-NFS	N-NFS	

1. A mere possibility is that Gaius health was an issue
2. But, Gaius is doing very well concerning the Truth and the truth giving him a healthy soul.
3. Both the physical and the spiritual are important. The natural body and situations are not tossed aside as unimportant.

3 John 3 – “For I rejoiced greatly when the brothers came and testified to your truth, as indeed you are walking in the truth.”

5463 [e]	1063 [e]	3029 [e]	2064 [e]	80 [e]	2532 [e]	3140 [e]	4771 [e]	3588 [e]	225 [e]	2531 [e]
echarēn	gar	lian	erchomenōn	adelphōn	kai	martyrountōn	sou	tē	alētheia	kathōs
3 ἔχαριν	γάρ	λίαν	ἐρχομένων	ἀδελφῶν	καὶ	μαρτυρούντων	σου	τῆ	ἀληθεία	, καθὼς
I rejoiced	for	exceedingly	coming	of [the] brothers	and	bearing witness	of your	-	truth	just as
V-AIP-1S	Conj	Adv	V-PPMP-GMP	N-GMP	Conj	V-PPA-GMP	PPro-G2S	Art-DFS	N-DFS	Adv

4771 [e]	1722 [e]	225 [e]	4043 [e]
sy	en	alētheia	peripateis
σύ	ἐν	ἀληθεία	περιπατεῖς .
you	in	truth	are walking
PPro-N2S	Prep	N-DFS	V-PIA-2S

1. “For” – gar – is not translated in the NIV, but it is in the Greek and translated in the above ESV. This is how John knows Gaius’s soul is doing well – the brothers have given witness concerning the truth that Gaius is walking in.
2. The “brothers could be:
 - a. Traveling teachers
 - b. Christian businessmen traveling
3. “bearing witness” and the present participles indicate there had been repeated reports about Gaius, not merely one instance.

3 John 4 – “I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.”

3173 [e]	3778 [e]	3756 [e]	2192 [e]	5479 [e]	2443 [e]	191 [e]	3588 [e]	1699 [e]	5043 [e]	1722 [e]	3588 [e]
meizoteran	toutōn	ouk	echō	charan	hina	akouō	ta	ema	tekna	en	tē
4 μείζοτέραν	τούτων	οὐκ	ἔχω	χαράν	, ἵνα	ἀκούω	τὰ	ἐμὰ	τέκνα	ἐν	τῆ
Greater	than these things	not	I have	joy	that	I should hear of	-	my	children	in	the
Adj-AFS-C	DPro-GNP	Adv	V-PIA-1S	N-AFS	Conj	V-PSA-1S	Art-ANP	PPro-AN1P	N-ANP	Prep	Art-DFS

225 [e]	4043 [e]
alētheia	peripatounta
ἀληθεία	περιπατοῦντα .
truth	walking
N-DFS	V-PPA-ANP

3 John 5 – “Beloved, it is a faithful thing you do in all your efforts for these brothers, strangers as they are,”

27 [e]	4103 [e]	4160 [e]	3739 [e]	1437 [e]	2038 [e]	1519 [e]	3588 [e]	80 [e]	2532 [e]	3778 [e]
Agapēte	piston	poieis	ho	ean	ergasē	eis	tous	adelphous	kai	touto
5 Ἀγαπητέ	, πιστὸν	ποιεῖς	ὁ	ἐὰν	ἐργάσῃ	εἰς	τούς	ἀδελφούς	, καὶ	τοῦτο
Beloved	faithfully	you are doing	whatever	if	you might have done	toward	the	brothers	and	they are
Adj-VMS	Adj-ANS	V-PIA-2S	RelPro-ANS	Conj	V-ASM-2S	Prep	Art-AMP	N-AMP	Conj	DPro-ANS

3581 [e]
xenous
ξένους
strangers
Adj-AMP

1. Gaius is faithful to the Truth for helping the traveling ministers
2. They were dependent on hospitality in the ancient world

3 John 6 – “who testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on their journey in a manner worthy of God.”

3739 [e]	3140 [e]	4771 [e]	3588 [e]	26 [e]	1799 [e]	1577 [e]	3739 [e]	2573 [e]	4160 [e]
hoi	emartyrēsan	sou	tē	agapē	enōpion	ekklēsias	hous	kalōs	poiēseis
6 οἱ	ἐμαρτύρησάν	σου	τῆ	ἀγάπη	ἐνώπιον	ἐκκλησίας	, οὓς	καλῶς	ποιήσεις
who	testified	of your	-	love	before	[the] church	whom	well	you will do
RelPro-NMP	V-AIA-3P	Pro-G2S	Art-DFS	N-DFS	Prep	N-GFS	RelPro-AMP	Adv	V-FIA-2S

4311 [e]	516 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]
propempsas	axiōs	tou	Theou
προπέμψας	ἀξίως	τοῦ	Θεοῦ .
having set forward	worthily	-	of God
V-APA-NMS	Adv	Art-GMS	N-GMS

1. “You will do well” is an idiom that means “please” and is a polite request to continue.
2. Gaius would have provided: food, money, laundry, money for expenses and lodging.

3 John 7 – “For they have gone out for the sake of the name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles.”

5228 [e]	1063 [e]	3588 [e]	3686 [e]	1831 [e]	3367 [e]	2983 [e]	575 [e]	3588 [e]	1482 [e]
hyper	gar	tou	Onomatōs	exēlthon	mēden	lambanontes	apo	tōn	ethnikōn
7 ὑπὲρ	γὰρ	τοῦ	ὀνόματος	ἐξῆλθον*	, μηδὲν	λαμβάνοντες	ἀπὸ	τῶν	ἐθνικῶν .
On behalf	for	of the	name	they went forth	nothing	accepting	from	the	Gentiles
Prep	Conj	Art-GNS	N-GNS	V-AIA-3P	Adj-ANS	V-PPA-NMP	Prep	Art-GMP	Adj-GMP

1. Didache 11 “Let every apostle, when he comes to you, be received as the Lord; but he shall not abide more than a single day, or if there be need, a second likewise; but if he abides three days, he is a false prophet. And when he departs let the apostle receive nothing save bread, until he finds shelter; but if he asks for money, he is a false prophet... And whosoever shall say I the Spirit, Give me silver or anything else, you shall not listen to him; but if he tell you to give on behalf of others that are in want, let no man judge him.” (From this very time period.)

3 John 8 – “Therefore we ought to support people like these, that we may be fellow workers for the truth.”

1473 [e]	3767 [e]	3784 [e]	5274 [e]	3588 [e]	5108 [e]	2443 [e]	4904 [e]	1096 [e]	3588 [e]
hēmeis	oun	opheilomen	hypolambanein	tous	toioutous	hina	synergoi	ginōmetha	tē
8 ἡμεῖς	οὖν	ὀφείλομεν	ὑπολαμβάνειν	τοὺς	τοιούτους	, ἵνα	συνεργοὶ	γινώμεθα	τῆ
We	therefore	ought	to receive	-	such [men]	so that	fellow workers	we may be	in the
Pro-N1P	Conj	V-PIA-1P	V-PNA	Art-AMP	DPro-AMP	Conj	Adj-NMP	V-PSM/P-1P	Art-DFS

225 [e]
alētheia
ἀληθεία .
truth
N-DFS

3 John 9 – “I have written something to the church, but Diotrephes, who likes to put himself first, does not acknowledge our authority.”

1125 [e]	5100 [e]	3588 [e]	1577 [e]	235 [e]	3588 [e]	5383 [e]	846 [e]	1361 [e]	3756 [e]
Egrapsa	ti	tē	ekklēsia	all'	ho	philoprōteuōn	autōn	Diotrephēs	ouk
9 Ἐγραψά	τι	τῇ	ἐκκλησίᾳ ;	ἀλλ'	ὁ	φιλοπρωτεύων	αὐτῶν ,	Διοτρεφῆς ,	οὐκ
I have written	something	to the	church	but	the [one]	loving to be first	among them	Diotrephes	not
V-AIA-1S	IPro-ANS	Art-DFS	N-DFS	Conj	Art-NMS	V-PPA-NMS	PPro-GM3P	N-NMS	Adv

1926 [e]	1473 [e]
epidechetai	hēmas
ἐπιδέχεται	ἡμᾶς .
welcomes	us
V-PIM/P-3S	PPro-A1P

3 John 10 – “So if I come, I will bring up what he is doing, talking wicked nonsense against us. And not content with that, he refuses to welcome the brothers, and also stops those who want to and puts them out of the church.”

1223 [e]	3778 [e]	1437 [e]	2064 [e]	5279 [e]	846 [e]	3588 [e]	2041 [e]	3739 [e]	4160 [e]	3056 [e]
dia	touto	ean	elthō	hypomnēsō	autou	ta	erga	ha	poiēi	logois
10 διὰ	τοῦτο ,	ἐὰν	ἔλθω ,	ὑπομνήσω	αὐτοῦ	τὰ	ἔργα ἃ	ποιεῖ ,	λόγοις	
Because of	this	if	I might come	I will bring to remembrance	of him	the	works	which	he is doing	with words
Prep	DPro-ANS	Conj	V-ASA-1S	V-FIA-1S	PPro-GM3S	Art-ANP	N-ANP	RelPro-ANP	V-PIA-3S	N-DMP

4190 [e]	5396 [e]	1473 [e]	2532 [e]	3361 [e]	714 [e]	1909 [e]	3778 [e]	3777 [e]	846 [e]	1926 [e]	3588 [e]
ponērois	phylarōn	hēmas	kai	mē	arkoumenos	epi	toutois	oute	autos	epidechetai	tous
πονηροῖς	φλυαρῶν	ἡμᾶς ;	καὶ	μὴ	ἀρκούμενος	ἐπὶ	τούτοις ,	οὔτε	αὐτὸς	ἐπιδέχεται	τοὺς
evil	prating against	us	and	not	being satisfied	with	these	neither	himself	he receives	the
Adj-DMP	V-PPA-NMS	PPro-A1P	Conj	Adv	V-PPM/P-NMS	Prep	DPro-DNP	Conj	PPro-NM3S	V-PIM/P-3S	Art-AMP

80 [e]	2532 [e]	3588 [e]	1014 [e]	2967 [e]	2532 [e]	1537 [e]	3588 [e]	1577 [e]	1544 [e]
adelphous	kai	tous	boulomenous	kōlyei	kai	ek	tēs	ekklēsias	ekballei
ἀδελφοὺς ,	καὶ	τοὺς	βουλομένους ,	κωλύει ,	καὶ	ἐκ	τῆς	ἐκκλησίας	ἐκβάλλει .
brothers	and	those	purposing	he forbids	and	from	the	church	he casts [them] out
N-AMP	Conj	Art-AMP	V-PPM/P-AMP	V-PIA-3S	Conj	Prep	Art-GFS	N-GFS	V-PIA-3S

1. “wicked nonsense” – *phylaron* – “to talk nonsense”, “to gossip against, talk idly, make empty charges against.”
2. “I will bring up what he is doing” is a mild way of translating the fact the elder intends to take up the matter with Diotrephes personally when he gets there.
3. John is not going to gossip back or use empty words, but will go at Diotrephes head on in a personal confrontation.

3 John 11 – “Beloved, do not imitate evil but imitate good. Whoever does good is from God; whoever does evil has not seen God.”

27 [e]	3361 [e]	3401 [e]	3588 [e]	2556 [e]	235 [e]	3588 [e]	18 [e]	3588 [e]	15 [e]	1537 [e]
Agapēte	mē	mimou	to	kakou	alla	to	agathon	ho	agathopoion	ek
11 Ἀγαπητέ , μὴ μιμοῦ τὸ κακὸν , ἀλλὰ τὸ ἀγαθόν . ὁ ἀγαθοποιῶν , ἐκ										
Beloved	not	do imitate	what [is]	evil	but	what [is]	good	The [one]	doing good	of
Adj-VMS	Adv	V-PMM/P-2S	Art-ANS	Adj-ANS	Conj	Art-ANS	Adj-ANS	Art-NMS	V-PPA-NMS	Prep

3588 [e]	2316 [e]	1510 [e]	3588 [e]	2554 [e]	3756 [e]	3708 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]
του Θεοῦ ἐστὶν ; ὁ κακοποιῶν , οὐχ ἑώρακεν τὸν Θεόν .								
-	God	is	the [one]	doing evil	not	has seen	-	God
Art-GMS	N-GMS	V-PIA-3S	Art-NMS	V-PPA-NMS	Adv	V-RIA-3S	Art-AMS	N-AMS

3 John 12 – “Demetrius has received a good testimony from everyone, and from the truth itself. We also add our testimony, and you know that our testimony is true.”

1216 [e]	3140 [e]	5259 [e]	3956 [e]	2532 [e]	5259 [e]	846 [e]	3588 [e]	225 [e]	2532 [e]	1473 [e]
Dēmētriō	memartyrētai	hypo	pantōn	kai	hypo	autēs	tēs	alētheias	kai	hēmeis
12 Δημητρίῳ μαρτυρήται ὑπὸ πάντων , καὶ ὑπὸ αὐτῆς τῆς ἀληθείας ; καὶ ἡμεῖς										
To Demetrius	witness has been given	by	all	and	by	itself	the	truth	and	we
N-DMS	V-RIM/P-3S	Prep	Adj-GMP	Conj	Prep	PPro-GF3S	Art-GFS	N-GFS	Conj	PPro-N1P

1161 [e]	3140 [e]	2532 [e]	1492 [e]	3754 [e]	3588 [e]	3141 [e]	1473 [e]	227 [e]	1510 [e]
de	martyroumen	kai	oidas	hoti	hē	martyria	hēmōn	alēthēs	estin
δὲ μαρτυροῦμεν , καὶ οἶδας ὅτι ἡ μαρτυρία ἡμῶν ἀληθῆς ἐστὶν .									
also	bear witness	and	you know	that	the	testimony	of us	TRUE	is
Conj	V-PIA-1P	Conj	V-RIA-2S	Conj	Art-NFS	N-NFS	PPro-G1P	Adj-NFS	V-PIA-3S

3 John 13 – “I had much to write to you, but I would rather not write with pen and ink.”

4183 [e]	2192 [e]	1125 [e]	4771 [e]	235 [e]	3756 [e]	2309 [e]	1223 [e]	3188 [e]	2532 [e]	2563 [e]	4771 [e]	1125 [e]
Polla	eichon	grapsai	soi	all'	ou	thelō	dia	melanos	kai	kalamou	soi	graphein
13 Πολλὰ εἶχον γράψαι σοι , ἀλλ' οὐ θέλω διὰ μέλανος καὶ καλάμου σοι γράφειν .												
Many things	I had	to write	to you	but	not	I desire	with	ink	and	pen	to you	to write
Adj-ANP	V-IIA-1S	V-ANA	PPro-D2S	Conj	Adv	V-PIA-1S	Prep	N-GNS	Conj	N-GMS	PPro-D2S	V-PNA

3 John 14 – “I hope to see you soon, and we will talk face to face.”

3 John 15 – “Peace be to you. The friends greet you. Greet the friends, each by name.”

1679 [e]	1161 [e]	2112 [e]	4771 [e]	3708 [e]	2532 [e]	4750 [e]	4314 [e]	4750 [e]	2980 [e]	1515 [e]	4771 [e]
elpizō	de	eutheōs	se	idein	kai	stoma	pros	stoma	lalēsomen	Eirēnē	soi
14 ἔλπίζω	δὲ	εὐθέως	, σε	ἰδεῖν	, καὶ	στόμα	πρὸς	στόμα	λαλήσομεν	. Εἰρήνη	σοι .
I hope	however	soon	you	to see	and	mouth	to	mouth	we will speak	Peace	to you
V-PIA-1S	Conj	Adv	PPro-A2S	V-ANA	Conj	N-ANS	Prep	N-ANS	V-FIA-1P	N-NFS	PPro-D2S

782 [e]	4771 [e]	3588 [e]	5384 [e]	782 [e]	3588 [e]	5384 [e]	2596 [e]	3686 [e]
Aspazontai	se	hoi	philoι	Aspazou	tous	philous	kat'	onoma
Ἀσπάζονται	σε	, οἱ	φίλοι	. Ἀσπάζου	τοὺς	φίλους	κατ'	ὄνομα .
Greet	you	the	friends	Greet	the	friends	by	name
V-PIM/P-3P	PPro-A2S	Art-NMP	Adj-NMP	V-PMMP-2S	Art-AMP	Adj-AMP	Prep	N-ANS