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Doctrinal Studies Bible Church
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Series: Book of 3rd John

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The Book of 3rd John (08) **(Recommending Other Ministers)**

Gaius and Demetrius were Latin names; which means they were probably Roman converts living in Asia Minor.

Most biblical historians believe Demetrius was the bearer of 3 John to Gaius. Demetrius was one of many travelling missionaries sent by John onto the Asia Minor mission field. Demetrius may have been to John what Timothy and Titus were to Paul.

This lesson will study four aspects of Recommending Others Ministers.
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- 1. John recommended Demetrius to Gaius and an unnamed church even though Diotrephes had made it clear that he would not accept anyone or anything recommended by John (3 John 9-11).**

In spite of Diotrephes objection, John has sent Demetrius with a letter of recommendation to Gaius.

This lesson is specifically important to pastors who are often asked for recommendations of ministers to others looking for ministries of pastor-teacher or evangelist.

- 2. John gave four reasons for recommending Demetrius to Gaius. John used the Greek word (martureo) [testimony] in each of these three reasons (3 John 12).**

- 1st He had a good testimony from everyone.
- 2nd He had a good testimony from truth itself.
- 3rd John and his team add their testimony to him.
- 4th John added his name and reputation to their testimony.

- 3. John has examined Demetrius' qualification of ordination into the ministry that are listed in (1 Tim.3:1-7) and (Titus 1:5-9).**

Scriptural qualification involved check list.

They involve examining marriage, family, addiction, leadership ability, conduct with others, honest with money, hospitable, and reputation inside the church and outside.

- 4. In addition, John has examined his spiritual growth in bible doctrine as an active minister, "And (good testimony) of (hupo+ablative of means) the truth (tes aletheia) itself."**

NOTE: Very often pastors are asked to recommend a minister whom they may not know, or know of their spiritual maturity / growth. If you are not able or willing to do the examination, it would be wise to not recommend or to put your name and reputation on this minister.

After a complete examination, John put his name and reputation on behalf of Demetrius to Gaius.

(3 John 12) "You know (oida / perf.a.ind.2ps) that our testimony (he marturia) is (eimi / p.a.ind.3ps) true."

John is confident that Demetrius is qualified as a doctrinal minister and capable of any Scriptural examination that pastors like Diotrephes might challenge.