

3rd John # 5

“Weak Micro-managers vs Strong Grace Leaders”

Matthew 16:13-18; 3rd John 9-10; 2nd Cor 5:11-21

Jesus assures Peter and us that He builds His church, not us or anyone else, upon a gracious revelation of Who and what Jesus Christ is from God the Father, received by faith and that secures the foundation of the universal body of believers that will never be overthrown.

The sad reality is that the local church unlike the universal church can and does fall prey to the attacks of satanic forces that close the doors all too often.

Our author, the apostle John is in love with Jesus Christ, the Living Word of God and the mind of Christ, the written Word of God and so, John like Jesus and His Father, absolutely loves the truth.

And John’s love extends beyond his Savior to all those who also love the truth as he and Jesus do.

People of like mind as John are his dear friends whom he loves, prays for and are a source of great joy to him because of their similar faithfulness in walking in the truth.

And those who know the truth are not only set free by it but they can’t help but want to share it.

The more we understand who Jesus Christ is and what He’s done for us; the more we’re motivated to love His family because we come to recognize that no matter how unattractive they may be to us, we all are obnoxious and unattractive to God because of our sin and yet, that didn’t stop Him from loving us.

As believers in Christ, God the Father doesn’t see who or what we are; He sees only who His Son, Jesus is and what He did for us on the cross as the definitive example of impersonal love.

GOD’S GRACE PROVISION FOR LEARNING HIS TRUTH:

1. God’s formation and preservation of Scripture.
2. God’s authorization of the local church.
3. God’s provision of the pastor-teacher.
4. God’s gift of the royal priesthood of the believer.

To have the privilege of growing up spiritually, we all must have privacy.

Every royal priest must construct his own altar which is biblical truth resident in the soul.

5. God provides the ministry of God the Holy Spirit.

REMEMBER: If God does not promote us, we’re not promoted and God promotes men and women of truth.

God promotes humble, grace-oriented people and promotion is a matter of biblical

indoctrination which glorifies God when we walk in His truth as promoted believers who are the invisible heroes of our day.

Leadership is the authority, ability and capacity to direct, guide, lead, motivate and influence in any organization where legitimate authority exists.

The purpose of leadership is to enforce, execute and motivate the policy, purpose and objectives of any legitimate organization.

Leadership is the responsibility of authority but being in a position of authority does not mean or imply that the person has leadership skills.

There is no gift of spiritual management in the Bible, only the gift of spiritual leadership related to the unique spiritual life of the Church Age.

The leader does not have the privilege of disliking anyone, so everyone must be treated the same; not based on who the leader likes or dislikes.

And Christian leadership is responsible to the Lord for their treatment of their subordinates.

Management is the bureaucratic enforcement of regulations without ability and often without integrity.

The only role model in the Christian life is our Lord Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ cannot be the role model of any believer apart from their consistent indoctrination of God's truth.