

“Demetrius is Worthy of Imitation, Are You?”

3 John 1:11-15

- **“Do not imitate evil....”** (2 Corinthians 5:20; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
 - People will imitate our behaviors. When it comes to evil, we are supposed to *ABHOR* evil (Romans 12:9); we are to *REPAY* no one evil for evil (Romans 12:17); do not be *OVERCOME* by evil but *OVERCOME* evil with good (Romans 12:21); we are to *PUT TO DEATH* what is earthly/evil in ourselves (Colossians 3:5). In doing this we will make it clear that evil is not to be imitated, but to be *REPENTED* of (1 John 1:9).
- **“But imitate what is good....”**
 - Leaders should be imitated and Christians should be imitated (1 Corinthians 11:1; Hebrews 13:7; Philippians 3:17). We are supposed to live out the gospel in word and deed (Colossians 3:17; James 1:22).

“Evil spreads like warm butter and good spreads like cold butter.” (John MacArthur)
- **“Whoever does evil/good....”**
 - Our lifestyle proves the sincerity of the Christian profession (Romans 8:5-8 & 12-13). If someone is truly from God they will strive to walk in the truth (2 John 1:4-6), not make a practice of sinning (1 John 3:7-10). Everyone who does not abide in the teaching of Christ does not have God (2 John 1:9).
 - It is through the work of Christ that we both see and know God (John 14:9; 2 Corinthians 5:19-20).
- **“Demetrius has received a good testimony from everyone....”**
 - Demetrius received the testimony of the church (1 Timothy 3:1-7).
 - Demetrius passed the test of the Word (2 Corinthians 13:5).
 - Demetrius had received the testimony of fellow elders (2 Timothy 2:1-2).
 - Demetrius had received the testimony of his family (1 Timothy 3:1-7).
 - Demetrius had received the testimony of outsiders (1 Timothy 3:1-7).
 - Our transformation should be seen by all! The evidence of true conversion is seen in the progressive transformation of our character into Christlikeness.
- **“Peace/contentment be to you....”**
 - The peace of God...(Philippians 4:4-13)
 - is experienced in rejoicing in what has been done for you and having faith in what will be done for you.
 - guards our emotions and thoughts from believing and walking in lies by thinking on God’s Word and goodness.
 - is experienced by learning, receiving, hearing, seeing, and practicing the Word of God.
 - can be experienced during all circumstances and situations because it is in Christ that we have peace not in outcomes.
- **“Greet the friends each by name....”**
 - Knowing people by name and being known by name is a sign of closeness and intimacy. We have been called to know one another by name (Romans 16:1-16).

What has a higher authority in your life, your feelings or the Word of God? What has a higher authority in your life, your politics or the Word of God? What has a higher authority in your life, your preferences or the Word of God? What has higher authority in your life, your comfort or the Word of God? What has more

(continued →)

Worship: His Mercy is More (Matt Boswell)

In Tenderness (The Sing Team)

Service Times: Sundays: Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 7; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

authority in your life, your experiences or the Word of God? What has more authority in your life, the “Holy Spirit” that speaks to your heart or the Holy Spirit that speaks through His Word? What has a higher authority in your life, your fear and anxiety or the Word of God? What has a higher authority in your life, your identity according to the world or your identity according to the Word? What has a higher authority in your life, the pain that has been done to you or the pain that was suffered for you?