

GOD'S WISDOM & WARNINGS REGARDING WHO YOU SHOULD NOT FINANCIALLY SUPPORT Pt. 1

B. God Wants You to Exercise BIBLICAL DISCERNMENT When Supporting Individuals, Local Churches and Christian Ministries regarding ...

1. WHO you SHOULD financially support. {Hearing God's wisdom!}

- a. *Start with your own doctrinally sound local church PASTOR(S) and TEACHER(S) who spiritually feed and lead you. (1 Timothy 5:17-18; Gal. 6:6)*
- b. *Include also, if possible, doctrinally sound MISSIONARIES & MINISTRIES that clearly preach the Gospel, evangelize the lost, establish believers, plant churches, etc. We should support doctrinally sound missionaries and ministries...*

12) *Because God considers our personal service / hospitality & financial support to doctrinally sound missionaries / ministries as _____ to the Lord {vertically} and a demonstration of our practical _____ to them {horizontally} in which we DO WELL. (3 Jn. 1:5-6)*

1 **THE ELDER** {his title - he was physically mature & spiritually a leader, deserving respect & underscoring authority - the writer is the apostle John}, {writing} **To the beloved** {agapetos - a term of endearment & deep love for} **Gaius** {recipient of the letter; unsure which Gaius is addressed}, **whom I _____** {agapao} **in _____** {aletheia - the sphere of truth rooted in the Scriptures; note that love & truth are not a dichotomy}:

2 **Beloved** {2x}, **I pray** {normal word for prayer} **that** {introduces the content of his prayer} **you may prosper in all things** {in all respects} **and be in** {physical} **health** {apparently he wasn't}, **just as your soul prospers** {in spiritual health}. **3 For I _____** {had great joy - why?} **when brethren came and testified of _____** {ho aletheia} **that is _____ you, just as you _____ in** {in the sphere of} _____. **4 I have _____ than to hear that my children _____**. What do we learn from this introduction?

5 **Beloved** {3x}, **you do _____ whatever** {involving various ways to minister to others} **you _____** {not merely intend to do - for whom?} **for the _____** {fellow-believers you may know} **and for _____** {fellow-believers you do not know involving itinerant preachers}, **6 who have borne witness** {given testimony} **of your _____** {agape - love toward these fellow-believers & itinerant ministers} **before** {before or in the presence of - the place of testimony} **the church** {the church when gathered}. **If you send them forward on their journey** {propempeo - used oftentimes to send or supply aid to someone to fulfill a specific mission - Acts 15:3, 20:38, 21:5; Rom. 15:24; 1 Cor. 16:6,11; 2 Cor. 1:16; Tit. 3:13} **in a manner worthy** {axios - worthy or deserving} **of God** {like God would treat one of His servants}, **you will _____** {future active indicative - a very positive commendation}. What do we learn from this?

13) *Because faithful missionaries go forth for _____ and have chosen to _____ from the unsaved. (3 John 1:7) because they went forth _____ {hyper- on behalf of} _____ sake {literally, the Name}, _____ {lambano - by choice - active voice} _____ from {apo - out from the resources of} **the Gentiles** {a designation for the unsaved}. What do we learn from this?*

14) *Because by supporting doctrinally sound, faithful missionaries / ministries, we become _____ for _____. (3 John 1:8) We {as believers in Christ} **therefore** {a logical conclusion or application of vs.6-7} _____ {present, active, indicative of opheulo - we should willingly be responsible} **to _____ such** {as these faithful brethren & strangers}, **that** {hina - introduces a reason or purpose} **we** {as believers who desire to be faithful to the Lord and loving to fellow-saints} **may become _____** {commonly used by Paul of his fellow-missionary co-workers - Rom. 16:3,9,21} **for the _____**. What can we learn from this?*

2. WHO you SHOULD NOT financially support. {Heeding God's warnings!}

a. God does NOT want you to support pastors, teachers, missionaries, ministries etc. that _____

We should NOT support pastors, teachers, missionaries, and ministries that are preaching a false Gospel or teaching wrong doctrine ...

1) *Because in doing so, we are supporting a _____ and perhaps an _____.* (2 John 1:7)

1 THE ELDER {the writer is John}, To {the recipient} **the elect lady and her children** {unknown to us}, whom I _____ {agape} in _____ {aletheia - rooted in the truth of the WOG}, and not only {do} I {love this faithful woman}, **but also all those who have known _____**, 2 {why??} **because of _____ which abides ___ us and will be with us forever:** {God's truth is the motivation, foundation & context of all true Christian love. God's truths are eternal & do not change even when our culture changes. Amen??}

3 **Grace, mercy, and peace** {3 spiritual practical blessings} **will be with you** {to enable you to do whatever the Lord wants; where do these 3 blessings come from?} **from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ** {an affirmation of Jesus Christ's deity} **the _____** {a unique expression of the God-man in view of the gnostic heresy}, **in _____ and _____** {note the order, as truth governs love and love is connected with truth}. 4 I _____ {why??} **that I have found _____ of your children _____** {by faith resulting in obedience} **in** {the sphere of} _____ {the WOG}, **as we received commandment from the Father.** 5 **And now I plead with you, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment to you, but that which we have had from the beginning:** {what is it?} **that we {plural} _____.** 6 **This is _____, that we walk according to _____.** **This is the commandment, that as you have heard from the beginning, you should walk in it.** What do we observe from this introduction?

{Why is this emphasis on walking in the truth of the WOG & loving one another so important and needed?} **For many** {not a few, showing false teaching is popular} _____ {false teachers with an emphasis on their affects - they deceive} **have gone out into the world** {and are making their way to your church for entrance & support; how can you identify them?} **who do not confess _____** {note the significance of this name & title} **as coming** {referring to His incarnation at His first coming & all this entailed} _____ {with a fully human body w/o sin. See 1 John 4:1-3; 2:19}. **This** {person who teaches this false doctrine & false gospel} **is a _____** {his deception of people - whether saved or unsaved people} **and an _____** {his oppositional relationship to Jesus Christ - 2 Tim. 3:13-17}. What can you learn from this?

2) *Because in doing so, we may not receive a _____ at the JSC.* (2 John 1:8) _____ {watch out; be on guard - pres. act. imper. - a command given to all believers, not just pastors} **to yourselves, that we {or you} do not lose those things we {or you} _____ for** {Eph. 2:10; Heb. 6:10 - how? By supporting a false teacher}, **but that we may _____ a _____** {full, complete; a degree word} _____ {which is not in reference to salvation which is a gift but is only given to faithful believers - Rev. 3:11; 1 Cor. 3:11-15. What can we learn from this?}

3) *Because if we RECEIVE them into our house* {church} **or publicly GREET them** {favorably}, **we actually PARTICIPATE in their EVIL DEEDS.** (2 John 1:9-11) **Whoever _____** {to overstep, violate, to go beyond what the Scriptures teach} **and does _____** {meno - remain} **in the _____** {teaching; this is the issue not the personality, sincerity, education, size of ministry, etc. of the teacher} **of** {the person & finished work of} _____ **does _____ have God. He who abides in the _____ of Christ _____ the Father and the Son.** **If** {1st} **anyone comes to you** {plural} **and does not bring this _____** {a true Gospel and sound doctrine}, **do NOT _____** {present, active, imperative of lambano - you must chose to not receive him and this is a command} **him into your house** {probably house church} **nor _____** {publicly greet favorably} **him;** {why??} **for he who greets him shares** {present, active, indicative of koinoneo - shares, participates, or supports as a fact from God's perspective; used also of supporting true teachers - Gal. 6:6; Phil. 4:15} **in his evil deeds** {evil works - of spreading a wrong gospel and false teachings. This is the reverse and mirrors 3 John 5-8}. What can we learn from this?