A treia scrisoare a lui Ioan

1 De la Bârân către prietenul meu drag, Gaius, pe care-l iubesc în adevăr.

2 Dragul meu prieten, mă rog ca în toate să-ți meargă bine și să te bucuri de sănătatea trupului, așa cum și eu te bucuri de cea a sufletului. 3 Am bucurat foarte mult când au venit niște frați și au mărturisit despre credincioșia ta față de adevăr. Mi-au spus că ai continuat să urmezi calea adevărului. 4 Eu nu am o bucurie mai mare decât să aud despre copiii mei că umblă pe calea adevărului.

5 Dragul meu prieten, tu continuă să lucrezi cu credincioșie în tot ce faci pentru binele fraților tăi, chiar dacă ei îți sunt necunoscuți. 6 Ei au depus mărturie înaintea bisericii despre dragostea pe care o arăți. Te rog, ai grijă de ei să-și continue călătoria, într-un mod plăcut lui Dumnezeu. 7 Căci au plecat să slujească Numelui lui Cristos și nu au primit nicică de la cei necredincioși. 8 Deci noi ar trebui să ajutăm împreună lucrătorii pentru adevăr.

9 Am scris o scrisoare bisericii. Însă Diotreph, care își place să fie pe primul loc și dorește mereu să le fie conducător, nu acceptă ceea ce spunem. 10 De aceea, când voi veni, îi voi aduce aminte despre ceea ce face. M-a acuzat pe nedrept prin cuvinte rele, însă nu s-a oprit aici: el nu-i primește pe frați, împiedicându-i pe aceia care vor să-i primească și dându-i afară din Biserică.

11 Dragul meu prieten, nu urma răul, ci binele. Cel care se bucură de bine este al lui Dumnezeu, iar cel care face răul nu L-a văzut niciodată pe Dumnezeu.

12 Toți oamenii și adevărul însuși au depus o mărturie bună despre Dimitrie. Și noi depunem mărturie pentru el, iar voi aștepta să mărturia noastră fie adevărată.

1 Greetings from the Elder. 2 To my dear friend Gaius, a person I truly love. 3 My dear friend, I know that you are doing well spiritually. So I pray that everything else is going well with you and that you are enjoying good health. 4 Some believers came and told me about the truth in your life. They told me that you continue to follow the way of truth. This made me very happy. 5 It always gives me the greatest joy when I hear that my children are following the way of truth.

6 My dear friend, it is good that you continue to help the believers. They are people you don’t even know. 7 They told the church about the love you have. Please help them to continue their trip. Help them in a way that will please God. 8 They went on their trip to serve Christ. They did not accept any help from people who are not believers. 9 So we should help them. When we help them, we share with their work for the truth.

9 I wrote a letter to the church, but Diotrephes will not listen to what we say. He always wants to be the leader. 10 When I come, I will talk with him about what he is doing. He lies and says evil things about us, but that is not all. He refuses to welcome and help the believers who travel there. And he will not let anyone else help them. If they do, he makes them leave the church.

11 My dear friend, don’t follow what is bad; follow what is good. Whoever does what is good is from God. But whoever does evil has never known God.

12 Everyone says good things about Demetrius, and the truth agrees with what they say. Also, we say good about him. And you know that what we say is true.

1 Bârân probabil că este vorba despre apostolul Ioan, dar termenul „bârân” pe referă, de asemenea, la unul dintre conducătorii bisericii. 2 Adevărul sau Vestea Bună despre Isus Cristos care îl unește pe toți credincioșii. 3 Elder This is probably John the apostle. “Elder” means an older man or a special leader in the church (as in Titus 1:5). 4 truth The truth or “Good News” about Jesus Christ that joins all believers together. Also in verses 8, 12.
13Am multe lucruri să-ți scriu, însă nu vreau să folosesc cerneală și pană. 14Çi sper, mai degrabă, să te văd curând și să putem vorbi față în față. 15Pacea să fie cu tine! Toți prietenii te salută. Salută personal pe fiecare dintre prietenii noștri de acolo.

13I have many things I want to tell you. But I don’t want to use pen and ink. 14I hope to visit you soon. Then we can be together and talk. 15Peace to you. The friends here with me send their love. Please give our love to each one of the friends there.
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