

August 27, 2014  
"A Made Up Mind"  
III John 1:9-11  
Malcolm Marshall

v9 – *"I wrote something to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to have first place among them, does not receive us."*

v10 – *"This is why, if I come, I will remind him of the works he is doing, slandering us with malicious words. And he is not satisfied with that! He not only refuses to welcome the brothers himself, but he even stops those who want to do so and expels them from the church."*

v11 – *"Dear friend, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. The one who does good is of God; the one who does evil has not seen God."*

**Takeaway #1)** - The authenticity of the faith you proclaim is either reinforced or completely disregarded, based on your actions.

**Takeaway #2)** – We're only as good as much as we're of God.

**Takeaway #3)** – Good works are the signature by-products of living a God-honoring life.

**Takeaway #4)** – 3 tests from the Apostle John

A) Obedience (I John 2:3-6, 28-29; 3:4-10; 5:18; II John 6)

B) Sound doctrine (III John v. 3-4)

C) Love (I John 5:1-3)

**Based on his tests, are you good?**

**Takeaway #5)** - The lifestyle you exhibit is a direct reflection of the extent to which we have seen God.

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