

# Reliable and Unreliable Testimonies

Grace Bible Chapel

3rd John Study - emphasis on 3rd John 9-15

**Sunday – April 19th, 2026**

CONTEXT: The focus of this letter is on truth's testimony which belongs exclusively to those who are born again. Having and exhibiting truth as an essential in life's journey and especially in church leadership is viewed in this letter through the testimony of those who claim to know Christ. We have laid the foundation of the importance of truth in the first eight verses. Now we bring the specifics of truth to bear upon whom we listen, rely upon, and entrust with the care of our souls in this life. Truth does not mean just a concept but must be a reality that is lived. Those who lead Christ's true church must be those whose foundation is real because it is both built from the Scriptures and seen in practice by the person's life. John will close out this short letter contrasting the difference in professed leaders who show they do not possess God's truth in contrast to those who are real and worthy to be loved and followed by their changed life in Christ. The latter are prepared to bear God's testimony to others and reliable to be embraced and trusted.

## Outline of 3rd John

- I. The Testimony of a Christian (V. 1-8)
- II. The Testing of Testimonies (V. 9-15)

Key Words
● Good (3)
● Evil (2)
● testimony (2)
● imitate
● reason

Introduction:

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## II. The Testing of Testimonies (V.9-15)

- Revolting testimony (V. 9-10)

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- Responsible delineation (V.11)

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- Reliance on those tested (V.12)

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- Real exemplified concern (V.13-15)

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Closing:

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