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Doctrinal Studies Bible Church
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Series: Book of 3rd John

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The Book of 3rd John (06) (Christian Hospitality)

Paul encouraged Gaius to continue showing grace hospitality to missionaries who preach a grace gospel without charge.

We will examine our lesson text by the following five homiletic points.

- **Faithful** (Pistos) (3John 5a)
 - Priesthood service – Categorical Bible Doctrine (CBD) residing and functioning by the Faith Cycle to human experience.
- **Fellow missionaries** (3 John 5b)
 - Brethren (known) and strangers (not known but recommended).
- **Facilitate logical grace** (3 John 6)
 - Good testimony given to Gaius of hospitality.
- **Finances** (3 John 7)
 - Supply grace to those missionary who preach gospel without charge (2 Cor.11:7; 1 Cor.9:12-18)
- **Fellow helpers in missions** (3 John 8)
 - Partners in grace missions.

This lesson will study six aspects of Christian Hospitality

1. In the Jewish age, hospitality was based on a grace attitude regarding their freedom from Egyptians bondage.

(Ex.22:21) "You shall not wrong a stranger or oppress him, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt."
(Ex.23:9; Lev.25:35)

"It was and is felt to be a sacred duty to receive, feed, lodge, and protect any traveler who might stop at their door." (Unger Bible Dictionary. pg.502)

An example of grace hospitality can be seen when angels visited Abraham and then Lot as men (Gen.18:1-8; 19:4-11).

2. Church age hospitality was based on Jesus Christ training His disciples for missionary evangelism in (Mark 6:7-13).

(Mark 6:10-11) “Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave town. Any place that does not receive you or listen to you, as you go out from there, shake the dust off the soles of your feet for a testimony against them.”

There should always be a date and time of arrival and departure for good planning.

3. Paul instructed local churches to give grace hospitality to doctrinally sound travelling Christian missionaries (3 John 5-8).

Paul told them to do it without complaining (1 Pet.4:9).

Paul told them to make these missionaries feel comfortable and relaxed; but that they were NOT required to entertain them (Rom.12:13).

This ministry was often headed by widows in the church (1 Tim.5:10).

4. Christians are instructed by Paul to not give grace hospitality to apostate false teachers.

(2 John 10-11) “If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting; for the one who gives him a greeting participated in his evil deeds.”

5. Christian hospitality is one of the qualifications of the Gifted Communicator (Eph.4:11).

(1 Tim.3:2) “An overseer, then must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, **hospitable**, able to teach.” (Titus 1:7-9)

The wife of a pastor or evangelist must understand her support role in the ministry of grace hospitality.

6. The Church Age Believer (CAB) is reminded that it is possible to entertain angels and even Christ unaware.

(Heb.13:2) “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it.”

(Matt.25:35) “For I was hungry, and you gave Me (**Christ**) something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; **I was a stranger, and you invited Me in.**”

Jesus to Saul of Tarsus:

(Acts 9:5) “I am **Jesus** whom you are persecuting.”