

No Greater Joy

by Bill Crews

"Greater joy have I none than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth" (3 John 4). Thus was the apostle John affected by news borne to him about Gaius to whom this brief epistle was written. What was John saying? Was he not saying that no joy could exceed the joy that he felt over the news that those he loved in the Lord and whom he regarded in tenderness as his spiritual children were faithful to God and living according to His truth?

Every Christian, who has been for some time a Christian, should also be able to experience such joy over the fact that some with whom he had labored in order that they might become and then be Christians are still *"walking in the truth"* —still faithful to God, still growing spiritually. And, to think, that Christian was privileged to have a small part in the process that brought it about. What satisfaction and gladness it gives to him! And to God be the glory!

And every parent of children should also know that the greatest of joys comes from a child grown, not simply into a mature and responsible and productive adult, but, more, into a faithful follower of the Lamb of God, still *"walking in the truth"* — still faithful to God, still growing spiritually. And, to think, that parent was privileged by being mentor and example, to have a small part in the process that brought it about. Again, let me say, what satisfaction and gladness it gives that parent! And to God be the glory!

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