Just As Your Soul Prospers



"I PRAY THAT YOU MAY PROSPER IN ALL THINGS AND BE IN HEALTH, JUST AS YOUR SOUL PROSPERS."

The Prayer – Physical Prosperity

"I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health"

God Cares About Our Physical State

Isaiah 58:6-7; Matthew 25:34-40; 6:25, 31-32; Acts 14:17; 17:25, 28

We Should Pray for Each Other's Physical Well-Being

James 5:13-15; 1 John 3:16-18

The Parallel – Spiritual Prosperity

"just as your soul prospers"

A Sobering Request

- Usual salutary greetings 2 John 3; Eph. 1:16-18;
 Philippians 1:9; Colossians 1:9-10
- John is so confident of Gaius' spiritual state that he prays his physical well-being would match it.
- Would we even dare to offer such a prayer?

The Parallel – Spiritual Prosperity

"just as your soul prospers"

What if the request was granted?

- Bankruptcy? Revelation 3:17-19; James 1:9-11; 2:5
- Malnourishment? John 6:26-27; 1 Cor. 3:1-4
- Heart failure? 2 Cor. 4:16; Luke 18:1; Eph. 4:17-19
- Deafness/blindness? Matthew 13:13-15; 2 Peter 1:9

The Priority – Spiritual Service

"that we may become fellow workers for the truth"

The Prayer had a Greater Spiritual Objective

- For the physical good of Gaius, prompted by news of spiritual work – 3 John 2-6a
- With the goal of the spiritual work continuing 3 John 6b-8

The Priority – Spiritual Service

"that we may become fellow workers for the truth"

God's Blessings Equip Us for His Service

- Body 1 Corinthians 6:13, 19-20; Romans 6:12-13
- Physical blessings 2 Corinthians 9:8-11;
 1 Timothy 6:17-19
- Everything!

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