

# The Prosperity of Your Soul

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## The prosperity of the soul...

3Jn 1:1-14 ESV The elder to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth. 2 Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, **as it goes well with your soul.**

- **Prosper = help on the road -- to succeed in reaching** --- he was saying your soul is doing WELL - and I pray that everything in your life, even your health will go well **just as your soul is doing**

## ...Is linked to walking in truth

3 **For** I rejoiced greatly when the brothers came and **testified to your truth, as indeed you are walking in the truth.** 4 I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are **walking in the truth.**

- **When you walk in truth** it becomes more than the discovery or acknowledgement of facts --- When you walk in truth you align your life, your desires, your decisions, your purposes and your motivations with truth. Truth becomes your northstar so to speak.

## ...is linked with faithful treatment of others

5 Beloved, it is **a faithful thing you do in all your efforts for these brothers**, strangers as they are, 6 **who testified to your love** before the church. **You will do well to send them on their journey in a manner worthy of God.** 7 For they have gone out for the sake of the name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles. 8 Therefore we ought to support people like these, that we may be **fellow workers for the truth.**

- There were brothers who were strangers that he showed love (hospitality)
- They testified to his love (it was evident and so experienced by others they had to talk about it)
- People like Gaius supported ---and in doing so he became a FELLOW WORKER FOR THE TRUTH

## This was in contrast to Diotrophes

9 I have written something to the church, but Diotrophes, **who likes to put himself first, does not acknowledge our authority.** 10 So if I come, I will bring up what he is doing, **talking wicked nonsense against us.** And not content with that, **he refuses to welcome the brothers**, and also **stops those who want to and puts them out of the church.**

## You will do well to send them on their journey in a manner worthy of God

11 Beloved, do not imitate evil but **imitate good.** Whoever does good is from God; whoever does evil has not seen God.

- We say things like "a table fit for a king" It has the idea that we have made the setting so special that a king would feel at home to sit there. To send them on their journey in a manner worthy of God is also a reminder to **(1) treat them as you would treat the LORD...and/or (2) to treat them in a manner that reflects how God might treat them**

## The value of face to face interaction

12 Demetrius (*maybe the person who is being shown hospitality*) has received a good testimony from everyone, and from the truth itself. We also add our testimony, and you know that our testimony is true. 13 I had much to write to you, but I would rather not write with pen and ink. 14 I hope to see you soon, **and we will talk face to face.** 15 Peace be to you. The friends greet you. Greet the friends, every one of them.

**Summary** the prosperity of your soul = (1) walking in truth (2) treating others in a manner worthy of the LORD

- Treat them as you would treat the LORD & Treat them as the LORD would treat them