

INTRODUCTION

1. The letter was addressed to Gaius. This name appears in several places in the scriptures. The name was a common one among men of that day. These names may or may not be the same person of our letter.
 1. A Gaius was baptized by Paul. Acts 18:8; 1 Cor. 1:14, 15
 2. Gaius and one Aristarchus were in Ephesus at the time (A. D. 56) of the uproar of the silversmiths. They are identified as men of Macedonia.
 3. In Acts 20:4, we read that a Gaius was one of seven men who accompanied Paul into Asia.
 4. Gaius is mentioned in Romans 16:23 and is almost certain the one baptized by Paul in Corinth in A. D. 54. If he is the one baptized by Paul in Corinth, Gaius has now been Romans 16:23 a Christian for about 36 years.
 - (1) He was the host of Paul at this time. No doubt but that Paul lived in his house.
 - (2) He had been a host to the whole church in some way.
2. How John felt about Gaius.
 1. Four times in this letter the word "beloved" occurs.
 - (1) "Beloved I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." 3 John 2
 - (2) "Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren, and to strangers." 3 John 5
 - (3) "Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good." 3 John 11
 - (4) "The elder unto the wellbeloved Gaius, whom I love in the truth." 3 John 1
 - (5) The word "beloved" reveals the esteem in which Gaius was held not only by John but others as well.

GOD'S LAW OF BALANCE COMES TO LIGHT IN THIS PRAYER. The importance of good balance:

1. Every Scientist, every skilled mechanic knows how important this LAW OF BALANCE is.
 1. Did they balance the wheels? NO! That is the reason for the vibrating. Wheels properly balanced and all is well...smoother driving.
2. The law of balance written all over God's world.
 1. When God created the earth he gave it a perfect balance, so that it could turn its 25,000 miles in twenty-four hours without a tremor.
 2. The right balance must be kept between the red and white blood corpuscles in the human body. That is one reason why the doctor will take a drop of blood out of the end of your finger or blood vein.

JOHN'S PRAYER FOR GAIUS: That he might have a well-balanced life. We sometimes hear certain expressions such as:

1. "Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting." Daniel 5:27. Why found wanting? "The God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified." Dan. 5:23
2. "A man of weight and character." "A man of light and frivolous character." Note the moral import of such statements.

THE PRAYER FOR GAIUS CONSIDERED:

1. I wish, PRAY, above all things that thou mayest: 3 John 2
 1. PROSPER. (financially). Prosper means literally to have a good Career.
 2. BE IN HEALTH. Health of body is for many obvious reasons one of God's best gifts to man.
 3. AS THY SOUL PROSPERETH. Here John makes the prosperity of his soul the measure of the physical health and secular prosperity desired for Gaius.
 4. Here we have the true standard, safe standard, by which to determine just how rich one may safely become: JUST SO LONG AS THE SOUL PROSPERETH...TO THE EXTENT THAT THE SOUL PROSPERETH.
 5. How rich could you safely become?
 - (1) So long as one enjoys soul prosperity, his riches bless and benefit not only himself but others as well.
 - (2) When riches impair spiritual health, they should be severed from us as in the case of the rich young ruler (Mark 10:17-31).

DEARBORN VALLEY

Church of Christ

17200 WEST OUTER DRIVE DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

1. The letter was addressed to...
 2. The name was...
 3. The letter was dated by Paul...
 4. Also one...
 5. In Acts 20:1...
 6. Paul is mentioned in...
 7. In Acts 13:1...
 8. He was the host of Paul...
 9. He had been a host to the whole church...

10. How long felt about...
 11. Several times in this letter the word "beloved" occurs.
 12. (1) "Beloved I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."
 13. (2) "Beloved, thou shalt prosper whatever thou doest if thou only continue in these things."
 14. (3) "Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good."
 15. (4) "The elder unto the wellbeloved Gaius, whom I love in the truth."
 16. (5) The word "beloved" reveals the esteem in which Gaius was held and only of whom others so well.

LAW OF BALANCE
 1. Every material, every skilled mechanic knows how important the law of balance is.
 2. The law of balance is the reason for the vibrating wheel's property balanced and all is well... smooth driving.
 3. The law of balance written in over God's world.
 4. When God creates the earth he gave it a perfect balance, so that it could turn like a top without a tremor.
 5. The right balance must be kept between the red and white blood contained in the human body. That is one reason why the doctor will take a drop of blood out of the arm at your finger or blood vein.

GOD'S BLESSING FOR BALANCE: That we might have a well-balanced life, we sometimes hear certain expressions such as:
 "You are weighed in the balances, and art found wanting."
 "The Lord is with them, and who are all thy ways, hast thou not forgotten?"
 "A man of light and cheerful character."
 "A man of light and cheerful character."
 "A man of light and cheerful character."

THE IMPORTANCE OF BALANCE
 1. Physical health and mental prosperity depend on balance.
 2. Mental health and mental prosperity depend on balance.
 3. Mental health and mental prosperity depend on balance.
 4. Mental health and mental prosperity depend on balance.
 5. Mental health and mental prosperity depend on balance.
 6. Mental health and mental prosperity depend on balance.
 7. Mental health and mental prosperity depend on balance.
 8. Mental health and mental prosperity depend on balance.
 9. Mental health and mental prosperity depend on balance.
 10. Mental health and mental prosperity depend on balance.

COULD YOU PRAY THIS PRAYER?

1. COULD YOU PRAY THIS PRAY FOR YOURSELF?

1. Would you be willing to get down on your knees tonight and pray to God that he would bless you materially and physically in keeping with the measure that you cause your soul to prosper spiritually? (I am not thinking that a lack of good health and money indicates spiritual poverty...far from it)
2. Would this be a dangerous prayer for your to pray?

2. WOULD IT BE DANGEROUS TO PRAY THIS PRAYER FOR AMERICA?

1. The Vishnu, Juggernaut, of India. One of the gods of Hinduism in south east Asia.
 - (1) This juggernaut is 80 feet long, forty feet wide, and high in the air it holds a great throne for a huge idol that weighs tons.
 - (2) This idol has no wheels, instead it has about twenty-five huge rollers made out of big logs with an axle run through the center of the logs.
 - (3) It takes one thousand men to pull this huge idol through the streets.
 - (4) It is the idol before which human sacrifices are made: Mothers throw little babies in front of the rollers. Prisons are opened, prisoners are bound and thrown in front of the rollers. No longer useful, the aged and infirm are offered before the great idol in the same way. If you have any care at all, it makes your blood boil does it not? If such were to be tried in America somebody would go to jail... such would be stopped.
2. America's Vishnu: The liquor traffic that rolls down every street, hardly leaving a home untouched. Takes more lives than are offered before Vishnu of India. Takes away happiness and innocent children as well as those grown have their hopes crushed by this juggernaut.

3. WOULD THIS PRAYER BE DANGEROUS FOR YOUR HOME?

1. If you were to prosper in health and materially only to the extent that your soul prospers how would it be with you?
2. If Jesus were coming to your home to be your guest as he came to the home of Mary, Martha and Lazarus what would you do?
 - (1) Would you have to be careful with your temper, your tongue?
 - (2) Would you have to hide somethings in the closets?
 - (3) Under pretense, would you have to send the children in first to carry somethings out the back way.

WHAT SOCIOLOGIST TELL US: That four cornerstones made of solid rock necessary lest our house should sag. John pinpoints three of them here. They are:

1. Health. Ill-health a handicap all would agree.
2. Prosperity. Prosperity measured in keeping with the prosperity (spiritual) of the soul is safe.
3. Spirituality. This means:
 1. Truth known and appropriated in mind and in heart. For I rejoiced greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the truth that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the truth. 3 John 3
 2. This truth therefore is manifested in life and conduct. "Thou walkest in the truth."
4. Right Relationships. This one not mentioned by John here. Hear these words:
 1. Love thy neighbor as thyself. Mark 12:31
 2. As ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them. Matt. 7:12; Luke 6:31
 3. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Matt. 6:12; Luke 11:4

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DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

1. Would you be willing to get down on your knees tonight and pray for the sick in your home?
2. Please you mentally and physically in keeping with the message that you have just heard.
3. Would you be a dangerous prayer for your to pray?

4. Would you be a dangerous prayer for your to pray?
5. The vision, suggestion, of facts. One of the rods of liberation in south east Asia.
6. This is a weight of 50 feet long, forty feet wide, and four in the air it holds.
7. This rod has no wheels, instead it has about twenty-five pairs rollers made out of
8. The axle with an axle run through the center of the rods.
9. It is the rollers which human beings are made: rollers from rollers.
10. The rollers are placed, rollers are placed, rollers are placed, rollers are placed.
11. It makes your blood
12. If you have any cause of all, it makes your blood
13. If you have any cause of all, it makes your blood
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