

## Peace in Circumstances (Philippians 4:10-19)

Q: How can we have consistent peace within our circumstances? Can we have consistent peace in the problem areas of our lives?

The basis for Paul's peace—his contentment in all situations—was that he trusted in God to strengthen and sustain him as well as to supply his every need. He knew that his Lord was faithful. This was a truth that transformed him—it was knowledge that changed him.

- I. The Dangers of Contentment—Forgetting God
  - A. A Lesson from Moses—Beware of Forgetting the Lord (Deu. 8:11-14)
  - B. A Lesson from Agur—Beware of Denying the Lord (Proverbs 30:8-9)
- II. The Diligence in Seeking Contentment—Remembering God's grace
  - A. Lessons from the Past—"the Lord is my Portion"
    1. Remembering THY Words (Lamentations 3:21)
    2. Trusting in HIM (Lamentations 3:24)
    3. Obeying THY Words (Psalm 119:57)

Q: Which are you? A thermometer or a thermostat

**B. Lessons from \_\_\_\_\_—Be \_\_\_\_\_ (Philippians 4:10-19)**

Q: In Acts 16:29-30 why did the jailer respond this way?

1. **Be \_\_\_\_\_—God will \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ you (v. 10-13)**
  - a. **Paul's \_\_\_\_\_—"In the \_\_\_\_\_" (v. 10)**

**When your God is magnified He is big enough for any trial, any situation that life throws at you!**

Notice how Paul views everything in reference to Christ (Php 1:21).

- b. **Paul's \_\_\_\_\_—"to be \_\_\_\_\_" (v. 11)**

Paul has learned by experience to be content. It didn't come naturally for him just like it doesn't for each of us.

If our contentment is in the Lord—Him being our portion—then contentment will be our mindset despite our circumstances. Our contentment will be an act of worship.

He has learned to *trust* the One who is able to meet his every need and in turn he *obeys*.

c. **Paul's \_\_\_\_\_—God is \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 12-13)**

- i. **The \_\_\_\_\_ of his contentment (v. 12)**
- ii. **The \_\_\_\_\_ of his contentment (v. 13)**

Q: What does "*all things*" entail? This source of power is more than enough for every demand of life.

Cf. 2Co 9:8 - "*every good work*"

**2 Corinthians 9:8** And **God** is able to make all grace [*divine help*] abound [*superabound/ in excess*] toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency [*being content or satisfied*] in all things, may abound to every good work:

Cf. Php 2:13 - "*His good pleasure*"—God's perfect will

**Philippians 2:13** For it is **God** which worketh [*energizes*] in you both to will [*intentional, planned purpose*] and to do [*the power*] of **His** good pleasure [*perfect will*].

**John 15:5** I am the **Vine**, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in **Me**, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without **Me** ye can do nothing.

**2 Corinthians 4:7** But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of **God**, and not of us.

Consider in David's words of confidence Psalm 27 - v. 1 "*strength*" & v.14 "*wait.*"

**Ephesians 3:16-20** That **He** would grant you, according to the riches of **His** glory, to be strengthened with might by **His Spirit** in the inner man; that **Christ** may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend [*grasp*] with all saints what *is* the breadth, and length, and depth, and height [*the vastness and completeness of God's love*]; and to know the love of **Christ**, which [*sur*]passeth [*fragmentary, human*] knowledge, that ye might be filled [*controlled*] with all the fullness of **God**. Now unto **Him** that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the **Power** that worketh in us, **21** Unto **Him** *be* glory in the church by **Christ Jesus** throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

**Q: A thermometer or a thermostat...which will you choose to be?**

Will you choose to let your circumstances dictate your state of contentment or will you choose to rise above, through Christ's strength, help to regulate the contentment of your surroundings?