



STILLNESS in STRUGGLES

Sunday, November 12, 2017

A QUIET COMMITMENT:

- QUIET your mind and soul before the LORD — “*Be still, and know that I am God*” (Psalm 46:10)
- COMMIT to obedience: *Commit* to doing whatever God will say to you in this message — “*to obey is better than sacrifice*” (1 Samuel 15:22)

Q: What stabilizing truths do you hold on to in the storms of life?

A: God’s *praiseworthy purpose*, to conform us into the image of Christ (Romans 8:28-29).

A: God’s *purging process* (1 Peter 1:6-7) brings about change as we meditate upon the likeness of Christ (2 Cor. 3:18)

Stillness in Struggles (Psalm 46:10)

The main truth: **When we are still before God, we will hear His still small voice speaking His stabilizing truths which will lead to quietness—*spiritual stability* in the storms of life.**

Goal: Our goal in these messages is to understand the role of stillness in the struggles of life in order that we would worship God through life’s storms.

Stillness through Satisfaction (Philippians 4:10-19)

We saw from v. 6-9 that the **right prayer** *brings about* peace but also how the **right perspective** and **practice** helps us to *maintain* that peace—a life of *spiritual stability*.

Today we will see how the **peace within** leads to **peace without**. Satisfaction within the circumstances of life.

I. The _____: There is Stillness through Satisfaction (v. 10-12)

I can be content in any circumstance no matter what!

2 Corinthians 3:5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency *is* of _____;

Cf. 1 Timothy 6:6-9; Hebrews 13:5

This premise, **of satisfaction in every circumstance**, is based upon a few key realities that when we get them right we can enjoy the reality of consistent contentment in our lives.

A. Based upon the right _____ system (v. 10)

Our values are revealed by what we _____ in.

Philippians 1:21 For to me to live *is* _____, and to die *is* gain.

Cf. Matthew 22:37-39

The Christians' right value system is first is a **supreme love** for God followed by a **sacrificial love** for others. This is where contentment is rooted.

B. Based upon the right _____ (v. 12a)

C. Based upon the right _____ (v. 12b)

II. The _____: There is Satisfaction in Knowing God’s Sufficiency (v. 13-19)

A. Power: Resting in God’s _____ (v. 13)

Philippians 2:13 For it is **God** which worketh in you both to will and to do of *His* good pleasure [*perfect will*].

Consider how Paul rested in the truth of God’s sufficiency (2 Cor. 12:9-10).

Learning to rest in this truth of the sufficiency of God’s strength for every situation of life is vital to our satisfaction in life.

B. Provision: Resting in God’s _____ (v. 14-19)

1. What is a “need”?

2. Who is “*my God*”?


“Biblical contentment is learning to thank God for our troubles while we are still in them.”

Summary: Biblical contentment becomes a reality in the believers’ life when we become humbly dependent upon the Lord for both *His strength* to endure our trials and *His supply* of our every need.

In order for you to learn to be content in whatever state you are in you must...

- *Remember* the stabilizing truths of God
- *Rely* upon God to be faithful to His Word
- *Respond* in obedience & trust

What is my next step? Please consider doing the questions on the back of this page.

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What Is My Next Step?

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25

Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Eph. 4:22-24

Date: _____ Text: _____ Speaker: _____

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (**Put OFF SIN**)
2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (**Renew your mind**)
 - a. What is He like?
 - b. What does He like?
 - c. What does He dislike?
3. What does God say to me in this text? (**Renew your mind**)
 - a. What command to obey?
 - b. What promise to claim?
 - c. What principle to apply (*If I do _____, then God will do _____*)?
 - d. What example to follow?
4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (**Renew your mind**)
5. In light of what **I** have heard from God, ... (**Put ON CHRIST**)
 - a. What character quality of Jesus must **I** demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
 - b. In what situations will **I** most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
 - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)



OUR MISSION: to Supremely love GOD,
Sacrificially love others
—ALL to the GLORY of GOD!