

Peace in Circumstances (Philippians 4:10-19)

Q: How can we have consistent peace within our circumstances?

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.

Philippians 4:11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, *therewith* to be content.

He could truly say this with a clear conscience. The reality is that you and I can as well. The question is HOW??

I. The _____ of Contentment—_____ God

Q: What is the greatest danger that leads to our the wrong kind of contentment? It is _____ the Lord and His promises!

A. A Lesson from _____—Beware of _____ the Lord (Deuteronomy 8:11-14)

Notice the principle: _____—“*All the command which I command thee this day shall ye observe to do*”

Notice the promise: _____—“*that ye may live, and multiply, and go in and possess the land*”

The key to blessing is remembering what God has done and what He has said.

The greatest danger that leads us to the wrong kind of contentment is, “*thou forget the LORD thy God.*” When our contentment is based upon our circumstances we will fall into this trap.

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.

B. A Lesson from _____—Beware of _____ the Lord (Proverbs 30:8-9)

Proverbs 30:8-9 Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me: **9** Lest I be full, and deny **Thee**, and say, **Who is the LORD?** or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my **God in vain.**

Agur writes of his realization that his weakness—man's weakness—is to fall prey to self-sufficiency and discontentment.

In order to have Biblical contentment we must be diligent in avoiding these dangers by our diligence in the Word and upon God.

II. The _____ in Seeking Contentment—_____ God's _____

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

Cf. Philippians 2:13

A. Lessons from the _____—“the Lord is my _____”

Psalm 37:25 I have been young, and *now* am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

1. _____ THY Words (Lamentations 3:21)

Lamentations 3:21 This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope.

The key to blessing is remembering what God has done and what He has said.

Remember the sufficiency of God's grace (2Co 12:9).

2. _____ in HIM (Lamentations 3:24)

Lamentations 3:24 The **LORD** is my portion [*every need / satisfaction*], saith my soul; therefore will I hope in **Him**.

Psalm 73:26 My flesh and my heart faileth: *but* **God** is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.

Hebrews 13:8 **Jesus Christ** the same yesterday, and today, and forever.

3. _____ THY Words (Psalm 119:57)

Psalm 119:57 *Thou art* my portion [*every need / satisfaction*], O **LORD**: I have said [*promised*] that I would keep [*obey*] **Thy** Words.

Psalm 16:5 The **LORD** is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: **Thou** maintainest [*sustains*] my lot.

The Psalmist's confidence in the capabilities of his God promotes an eagerness to obey.