



Sunday, March 29, 2020

MAKE 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)

I. PEACE within Our SELVES (Php 4:4-9)

In these verses, Paul guides us on the path of peace. He gives us a precept followed by a prayer and the right perspective. His premise is that with steps of obedience with can consistently enjoy God’s transcendent kind of peace.

A. The PRECEPT that EVIDENCES PEACE (4-5)

In this precept we are commanded to evidence peace as we display both a mindset of joy and gentleness—there is an upward and outward focus. Our joy reflects our view of God while our gentleness is an outpouring of that joy as we interact with others.

B. The PRAYER that BRINGS PEACE (6-7)

The prayer that brings peace is filled with the right attitudes of humble worship, supplication, and thanksgiving. The resulting promise is a kind of transcendent peace that figuratively “blows your mind”—it is beyond our capability to understand.

C. The PERSPECTIVE that MAINTAINS PEACE (8-9)

Our thoughts determine our actions. What seems to us to be shocking and out of character behavior would be explained if we could see the thought processes that had been going on internally.

II. PEACE within Our CIRCUMSTANCES (Php 4:10-20)

Paul speaks of having CONTENTMENT in the circumstances that we find ourselves in. He speaks of the STRENGTH and SUPPLY of our contentment.

A. The Pursuit of Contentment (20)

The pursuit of contentment accomplishes our created purpose as it brings glory to God.

B. The Premise of Contentment (v. 10-12)

Premise: I can be content in any circumstance no matter what!

2 Corinthians 3:5 Not that we are sufficient [*adequate in*] of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency [*adequacy*] is of God;

1. Based upon the right value system (v. 10)

Our values are revealed by what we rejoice in.

Matthew 22:37-39 Jesus said unto him, 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

2. Based upon the right truth (v. 12a)

3. Based upon the right Master (v. 12b)

Romans 6:16 Know ye not [*don't you know*], that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

C. The Pillars of Contentment (v. 13-19)

Our contentment rests upon these powerful promises of GOD'S PROVISION.

1. The Sufficiency of God's Power—Learning to Rest in God's Strength (13)

a. The Source of Contentment

The SOURCE of Paul's contentment was Christ alone.

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

b. The Strength of Contentment

"which strengtheneth me" – Because of the indwelling Holy Spirit, the believer is empowered to do all that the Lord calls upon him to do (Php 2:13) and go through.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 And **He** said unto me, “**My** grace is sufficient for thee: for **My** strength is made perfect in weakness.” “Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of **Christ** may rest upon me. **10** Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for **Christ’s** sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.”

When the temptation to sin and give in is seemingly greater than your strength run to Christ and remember that He has promised that His strength will be sufficient.

1 Thessalonians 5:24 Faithful is He that calleth you who will also do it.

2 Corinthians 3:5 Not that we are sufficient [*adequate in*] of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency [*adequacy*] is of **God**;

2. The **Sufficiency** of God’s **Provision**—Learning to Rest in God’s Supply (v. 14-19)
 - a. The source of this provision – “*But my God*”
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Lamenatations 3:24 The **LORD** is my portion [*every need / satisfaction*], saith my soul; therefore will I hope in **Him**.

- b. The satisfaction of this provision – “*shall supply*”
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- c. The spectrum of this provision – “*all your need*”
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- d. The sufficiency of this provision – “*according to His riches*”
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Rom 8:32 **He** that spared not **His** own **Son**, but delivered **Him** up for us all, how shall **He** not with **Him** also freely give us all things?

Philippians 4:20 Now unto **God** and our **Father** be glory forever and ever. Amen.



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. *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.

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