
Contentment in Christ

Philippians 4:10-13

Solid Rock Church
Craig Colin

Background of Philippian Church

- Paul has a deep love and gratitude for the Philippian church.
- Philippian Church was the first church in Europe Paul started.
- They supported his missionary journeys financially.
- Paul saw early on that their faith was real, they loved Jesus, and it was known throughout the region.

Philippians 4:10-13

10 I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. **11** I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. **12** I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. **13** I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Verse 10: Two types of concern they have for him...

The Philippian church gives gifts towards Paul's ministry

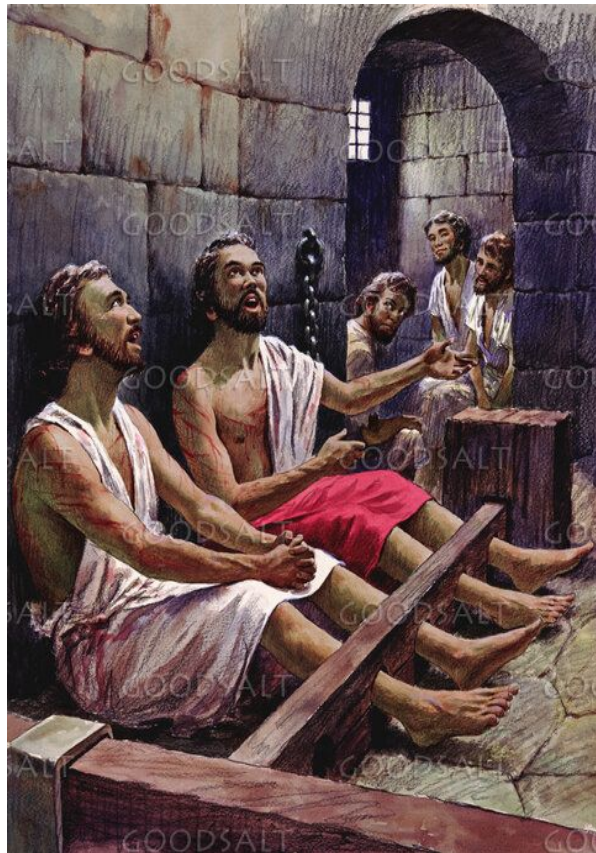
The Philippian church cares for the well being of Paul.

What does it mean to be content?

To be satisfied or happy

“A state of being in which one is satisfied with their current life situation, and the state of affairs in one's life as they presently are. If one is content, they are at inner peace with their situation and how the elements in one's life are situated.”

Most likely the look of Paul's jail cell



Paul has learned to be content

“Contentment is commanded of us, but, paradoxically, it is created in us, not done by us. It is not a series of actions but of a renewed and transformed character.” - Dr. Sinclair Ferguson

Ways to develop in Contentment

1. Begins with our functional beliefs about God
2. Contentment is cultivated in an attitude of gratitude
3. Christ continually becomes our treasure

2 Corinthians 11:23-28

“**23** Are they servants of Christ? (I am out of my mind to talk like this.) I am more. I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again.**24** Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. **25** Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, **26** I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. **27** I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. **28** Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches.”

Paul has lived through hard and good times

- Been in prison
- Whipped and flogged
- Beaten with rods
- Wrecked at sea
- Pelted with stones
- Been hungry and thirsty
- Places of honor
- Titles of prestige
- Wardrobe of clothes
- Respected by the Roman authorities
- Started churches

Verse 13

“I can do all things through him who gives me strength.”



Why can Paul say this?

“He has learned to be content and because he has been in need and has had plenty and he has seen Christ’s power in him in every situation he is able to say I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.”

What can we do with this?

1. Let someone know you are thankful for them
2. Learn to be content
3. Continue to work on spiritual thinking
4. Let your strength be found in God, not yourself