

I Can DO ALL Things?? ~ Philippians 4:10-13

→ Scripture Reading Phil. 4:10-13

INTRODUCTION

→ Fence and Grass

Quiz

Life is going to be really good when...

Life would be great **IF only**...

I know I'd be happier IF I had...

Life was really good back when...

Phil 4:11-12 (NIV) ¹¹...I have **LEARNED to be CONTENT** whatever the circumstances.

¹²...I have **LEARNED the secret of being CONTENT** in any and every situation...

Phil 1:7 (NIV) ...for whether **I am IN CHAINS** or defending and confirming the gospel...

Phil 1:13-14 (NIV) ...what has happened to me has really served to **ADVANCE** the gospel. ¹³ As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am **IN CHAINS** for Christ. ¹⁴ Because of **my CHAINS**, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly.

Phil 1:15-17 (NIV) ¹⁵ It is true that **some preach Christ out of ENVY and RIVALRY**...

¹⁷ ...out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing that they can **stir up trouble for me while I am IN CHAINS**.

I have Learned to BE CONTENT ~ Philippians 4:6-7

¹⁰ I rejoice greatly in the Lord that at last you have renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you have been 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 everything through Him who gives me strength.

Paul was confident that he was in the will of God. He knew that wherever he was, or in whatever circumstances he found himself, **he was there by divine appointment.** MacDonald

IMPLICATION

¹¹ ...for I have learned to **be Content**, whatever the circumstances may be. (JBP)

¹² I know how to live on almost **nothing** or with **everything**. I have learned the **SECRET of living** in every situation, whether it is with a **full** stomach or **empty**, with **plenty** or **little**. (NLT)

¹³ I can do **ALL THINGS** through HIM who strengthens me. (ESV)

Hebrews 13:5 (HCS) Your life should be free from the love of money. **Be SATISFIED** with what you have, for He Himself has said, **I will NEVER leave you or FORSAKE you.**

IMPLICATION

→ True Contentment is **NOT** based on our **CIRCUMSTANCES**

¹¹ ...for I have learned in **WHATEVER** situation I am **to be content**. (ESV)

2 Cor. 4:16-18 (NIV) ¹⁶ ...**we do not lose heart**. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being **renewed day by day**. ¹⁷ For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸ So we **fix our eyes** NOT on what is seen, but **ON what is unseen**. For what is seen is temporary, but what is **unseen is eternal**.

➔Contentment is NOT Learned Quickly or Easily

¹¹ ...I have LEARNED how to be content with whatever I have. (NLT)

Contentment is LEARNED through exposure to times of NEED and times of PLENTY. It involves a regular struggle to BELIEVE that **Christ IS ENOUGH**. CCE

➔Contentment is based on total DEPENDENCE on Christ

¹³ I can do ALL THINGS through HIM who strengthens me. (ESV)

Christian contentment is rooted in our **relationship with Christ**. It flows from our **UNION** and **COMMUNION** with our Savior. CCE

Paul is not preoccupied with his situation; he is **preoccupied with Jesus**. This is his secret. When you focus on Jesus, you can be learn to be CONTENT. CCE

Lamentations 3:25-26 (NLT) The LORD is good to those **who DEPEND on Him**, to those who search for Him. ²⁶ **So it is GOOD to wait quietly** for salvation from the LORD.

TAKE AWAY ??

Discontentment holds today's **joy hostage** with a list of demands of how things **should be**. Presson

Psalms 73:25 (NIV) Whom have I in heaven but You? **And earth has nothing I desire besides YOU**.

CONTENTMENT...

- is not based on our CIRCUMSTANCES
- is not COMPLACENCY
- refuses to COMPARE
- allows for DISAPPOINTMENT
- is based on ACCEPTANCE
- means being THANKFUL