#### Phil 14 - Ready For All Things PT 2 - Phil 4:10-13

<u>Last Msg</u> – we looked at that <u>Most Famous</u> - - & <u>Most Mis-understood</u> Vs in <u>Phil Ch 4</u> - - <u>Phil 4:13</u>

& we made a **pretty clear case** that what Paul was saying was;

"I am **strong** for all things in Christ who empowers me"

"I am <u>ready</u> for anything through the strength of the One who lives within me," (both LIT translations)

So it's **Really Important** that you get that last MSG "Ready For All Things – PT 1"

So you can hear everything leading up to today's msg

Because **TODAY** – we're going to look at the **HOW??** 

## HOW ??? -- HOW can we be:

"<u>strong</u> for all things in Christ who empowers us"
"<u>ready</u> for anything through the strength of the One who lives within me,"

## How in the world am I supposed to go from;

Living <u>IN</u> my circumstances - to Living <u>INDEPENDENT</u> of my circumstances ? (in last wk's msg)

That's a **great question** - - Let's look at it!

**Before** we get started – we <u>must understand</u> - Our Walk with Christ is a "<u>Life's Journey</u>" - isn't it?

AS we walk w/ Jesus – we're "transformed" as we go – Right?

So - <u>The goal</u> of this life is actually to Know Christ better & better - <u>THRU all our circumstances</u> Learning to: Trust Him more

Depend on Him more

Know His Strength & Fellowship – more & more

Which is 1 of the primary reasons <u>God doesn't use</u> the <u>magic wand</u> / <u>quick fix</u> technique - we wish He would

The good news is - there <u>IS</u> a process we can enter that will <u>take us</u> to the same <u>Secret Discovery</u> Paul made

The Secret Discovery that enabled Paul to say in Phil 4:13;

"I am strong for all things in Christ who empowers me"

## **Let's Pray**

You know - Our Walk with God is a TWO PART walk . . .

& <u>very often</u> – it's our <u>Not Knowing</u> how sure <u>God's Part</u> is that causes us to <u>be fearful</u> in our Walk with Him

In our <u>Walk</u> with God there is a "<u>God-Part Part</u>" - & an - "<u>Our-Part Part</u>"

The "<u>God-Part Part</u>" – is the <u>Finished</u> part (accomplished) & the <u>KEY</u> to "<u>Our-Part</u>" - is <u>Learning</u> & <u>Knowing</u> God's Part

See if you can see this in Phil 4:11-13

**V.11** – "*I have learned*"

V.12 - "I know how" - "I know how" - "I have learned"

V.13 – "I can do all things" LIT - I AM READY for all things
I have the strength for all things

& the <u>only place</u> <u>Jesus Christ</u> is mentioned here is <u>V.13(b)</u> – "<u>through</u> Christ who strengthens me"

Now – <u>this doesn't mean</u> it's <u>ALL UP TO</u> Paul – it means God's <u>ALREADY</u> done His part

<u>God's Part</u> – in Christ – is <u>EVERYTHING</u> we need to give us <u>the Strength</u> for <u>ANY</u> circumstance we'll face

<u>Let's just look at 3 parts – of **God's Part**;</u>

His **Providence** 

His **Power** 

His **Promise** 

# The 1st Part of "God's Part" is - God's Providence

providence comes from two Latin words: pro = "before" - - & video = "to see" (to see before hand)

But it's not that God simply sees beforehand

<u>It means</u> God is <u>AT WORK</u> beforehand – in advance – <u>for the good</u> of all those who are His Children

God's <u>AT WORK</u> – for your good – <u>ALREADY</u> – <u>BEFORE</u> this circumstance came <u>crashing</u> into your life

**Long before** you knew about it – God was <u>already at work</u> outside of time - **FOR YOUR GOOD**!

Working for your good IN THE MIDST of your circumstance - BEFORE you even knew about your circumstance

The most often quoted Vs. re: God's Providence is . . .

#### Rom 8:28 (NIV)

28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

God is <u>AT WORK</u> – in <u>Every Circumstance</u> – <u>for the good</u> of those who <u>love Him</u> – who've <u>been called</u> according to <u>His purpose</u>

& the end of **Rom 8:28** actually <u>references the truth</u> that God has <u>**ALWAYS**</u> been at work for our good . . .

because He's ALWAYS known we would be His Children

## If your taking notes – write Psa 139 (esp V.16-18)

This is <u>God's Providence</u> – We see it thru-out the Bible & it's <u>the 1<sup>st</sup> Part</u> of <u>God's Part</u> – that we must <u>KNOW</u> & <u>LEARN</u>

& we <u>must make it</u> a huge source of <u>confidence</u> for us to be "<u>READY FOR ALL THINGS</u>" thru Christ

# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Part of "God's-Part" is - God's Power

The source of our "<u>Hidden strength</u>" is <u>God's power</u> <u>continually being poured</u> into us

Here in **Phil 4:13** – when it says <u>"Christ who strengthens me"</u> it means **LIT** - "Pours Power into me"

The <u>most important part</u> of the <u>Christian's life</u> is <u>sending down</u> <u>our roots</u> deep into <u>God's hidden source</u> of Power

<u>God's Power</u> is there – that's the <u>God-Part</u>

But **sending** the roots down to <u>access it</u> – that's the <u>Our-Part</u>

## Phil 2:13 (NLT)

13 For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the <u>power</u> to do what pleases him.

God is working <u>IN YOU</u> – Right Now – <u>giving you</u> the Desire - & <u>THE POWER</u> – to walk with Him – <u>right thru this circumstance</u>

All you have to do is access that power

#### in Eph 1:19-20 Paul says (NLT)

19 I also pray that you will understand the <u>incredible greatness</u> of <u>God's power for us</u> who believe him. This is the <u>same mighty</u> <u>power</u> 20 that raised Christ from the dead . . .

The <u>incredible greatness</u> of <u>God's Power</u> (that raised Christ from dead) is <u>Available to US</u> . . . <u>THAT'S</u> God's Part . . .

It's available – to be <u>Poured INTO us</u> . . . so we can be "strong (ready) for ALL THINGS - in Christ Who empowers us"

God is at Work for our Good – we just got to trust Him God's Power is there for us – we just got to access it

# & The 3rd Part of "God's Part" is - God's Promise

<u>God's promises</u> to us are <u>too many</u> to number - & - <u>too massive</u> to measure

But God's **Providence** - & God's **Power** – are there to **bring about God's Promises** in our lives

**THAT'S** God's-Part - & He has already <u>fully accomplished</u> it We've just got to *learn* to **Walk in it** 

We see the great promises of God on every page of scripture

#### Right here - In Phil 4:19 (NLT)

19 And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.

Guys – **THAT'S** a *Promise* - & God **keeps** His *Promises* 

# Back in Phil 1:6 Paul says;

6 being <u>confident</u> of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you <u>will complete it</u> until the day of Jesus Christ;

**THAT'S** a **Promise** - & God **keeps** His **Promises** 

## Rom 8:31-32 (NLT)

31 What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?

32 Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else?

## Rom 8:35 & 8:37 (NLT)

35 Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death?

. . .

37 No, despite all these things, <u>overwhelming victory is ours</u> through Christ, who loved us.

<u>Incredible</u> – <u>Supernatural</u> <u>Promises</u> - <u>WHY ??</u> - - to make us "strong for ALL things in Christ who strengthens us"

<u>God's promises</u> - are for <u>our</u> <u>Ultimate Overwhelming Victory</u> <u>We've got</u> to <u>Believe them</u> - & <u>Walk in them</u>

& God <u>WILL NOT</u> fail us in <u>His Providence</u> – <u>His Power</u> – or <u>His Promises</u> So <u>the only thing</u> left – for us to grasp <u>the HOW</u> of "being ready (strong) for ALL things in Christ who strengthens us"

The only thing left . . . is the OUR-PART Part !!!

Again - Knowing this is a *life-long process* of transformation . . .

What I <u>want to do</u> today - is to give you the <u>Daily Steps</u>, in order to <u>Take Hold</u> – of this <u>Secret Strength</u>

In PHIL MSG # 12 ("No Worries")
we looked at the importance of our MIND

We looked at how important it is - to <u>have the mind</u>
Paul describes in the <u>1st half</u> of <u>Phil Ch 4</u>

<u>Actually</u> -- <u>ALL THRU</u> Philippians
Paul's been <u>addressing</u> the <u>critical importance</u> of <u>our mind</u>

& the "Our-Part Part" - has a lot to do with our MIND . . .

For us to be strong for ALL things in Christ who strengthens us
We need to address 3 Issues of our MIND

#### Those 3 Issues are;

- 1) Surrendering our Mind (& life)
- 2) Renewing our Mind (& life)
- 3) Guarding our Mind (& life)

<u>Step #1</u> – for HOW you can be <u>ready for all things</u> <u>in Christ</u> who strengthens you . . .

Step #1 - SURRENDER YOUR MIND (& life)

Rom 12:1  $\rightarrow$   $\rightarrow$ 

#### **Rom 12:1**

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies [totality of Self] a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

There's <u>one thing</u> you have got <u>to know</u> - God <u>WILL NOT</u> Join you - <u>in your own will</u> for your life !!

He **knows better** – & His plan *is BETTER* than yours . . .

& He's <u>already</u> proved it by; His **Providence** – His **Power** - & His **Promise** 

if we will simply **SURRENDER** our *own will* to God as a *living sacrifice* . . .

#### HE WILL BRING HIS GREAT PLAN TO PASS IN OUR LIFE!

The <u>1st Step</u> is – We must <u>STOP</u> fighting God to <u>get our own way</u> & completely <u>SURRENDER</u> our lives to <u>HIM</u> . . .

so <u>He can</u> bring <u>His good & perfect will</u> to pass in our lives

Which (as Rom 12:1 says) is our ONLY Reasonable Response to Him being Lord of our lives

## Step #1 Of Our Part – SURRENDER Your Mind (& life) . . .

Step #2 – for HOW you can be <u>ready for all things</u> <u>in Christ</u> who strengthens you . . .

## Step #2 - RENEW YOUR MIND (& life)

#### Rom 12:2

2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the <u>renewing of your mind</u>, that you may <u>prove</u> what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

**Renew your mind** – so that you may "**PROVE**" (know by testing) what is God's **good & perfect will** for your life . . .

"**Renew your mind**" means to *Renovate* – like *Renovating* a house

So <u>first</u> – <u>you do demolition</u> - & <u>throw out all the old junk</u> & then you <u>Renovate</u> - by bringing <u>ALL NEW stuff in</u>

& THAT is exactly what PHIL MSG #12 ("No Worries") was about

**Look over** at **PHIL CH 4** – Follow me from **V.4** – **V.8** 

#### Renovate your mind

# Throw out the Old - & Bring in the New - BY:

- (4:4) *Rejoicing* in the Lord always
- (v.5) Letting your *gentleness* be known to all
- (**v.6**) Being <u>anxious for nothing</u>, instead by <u>Prayer</u>, <u>Supplication</u>, & <u>Thanksgiving</u> roll your burdens over to God
- (v.7) Then let the *Peace of God* guard your heart & mind
- (<u>v.8</u>) & then <u>Focus your mind</u> <u>ONLY on</u> what is; <u>True</u> - <u>Noble</u> – <u>Just</u> – <u>Pure</u> – <u>Lovely</u> – of <u>Good Report</u> - <u>Virtuous</u> - & <u>Praise Worthy</u>

Get a complete Renovation of your mind
Throw Out ALL the Old Junk - & Bring In ALL New Life

Right Now – You might very well be saying . . . HOW ??

#### Renovating your mind comes from 3 Daily Actions:

- 1) **Daily Prayer** *in the area* you need a renovation
- 2) Daily Bible Study in the area you need a renovation
- 3) **Daily <u>Discipleship</u>** *in the area* you need a renovation

If you <u>really want</u> Your life to be <u>transformed</u> - You <u>MUST</u> follow this "<u>Renovation Schedule</u>"

- 1) **<u>Daily Prayer</u>** *in the area* you need a <u>renovation</u>
- 2) **Daily Bible Study** *in the area* you need a <u>renovation</u>
- 3) **<u>Daily Discipleship</u>** *in the area* you need a <u>renovation</u>

Step #1 Of Our Part - SURRENDER Your Mind (& life) . . .

Step #2 Of Our Part - RENEW Your Mind (& life) . . .

<u>Step #3 – for HOW you can be ready for all things</u> <u>in Christ</u> who strengthens you . . .

# Step #3 - GUARD YOUR MIND (& life)

Your <u>Surrendered</u> <u>MIND</u> - & Your <u>Renewed</u> <u>MIND</u> has **3 Constant Enemies** . . .

Your Flesh - The World - The Devil

These 3 enemies ALL have the ability to destroy you

& so - your <u>Surrendered</u> & <u>Renewed</u> <u>Mind</u> must be on <u>constant Guard</u> - <u>against these 3 enemies</u>

Let me suggest 3 messages from W-B-M

"Overcoming Spiritual Strongholds"

"Spiritual Warfare - PART 1 & PART 2"

These msgs come out of **Eph Ch 6** – which <u>we really need</u> to make part of our Regular **Prayer**, **Bible Study**, **Discipleship** 

In order to **GUARD** our <u>Surrendered</u> & <u>Renewed</u> Minds

#### **Eph 6:10-18** gives us the process;

of replacing the <u>Destructive</u> things in our Lives with <u>Godly</u> things in our Lives

#### Turn over to Eph 6 - & follow me thru it;

- V.14 Put on *Truth* instead of *Lies*
- **V.14** Put on *Righteousness* instead of *Sin*
- **V.15** Put on the *Gospel of Peace* instead of *Conflict*
- **V.16** Take up the <u>Sheild of Faith</u> instead of <u>Fear</u>
- **V.17** Take up *Helmet of Salvation* instead of the *Logic of the world*
- **V.17** Take up the *Word of God* instead of *Prime-Time TV*

#### & as we learn to Put-On

this Spiritual Armor described here in Eph Ch 6

We <u>can successfully</u> <u>GUARD</u> our <u>Hearts & Minds</u> from the <u>3 enemies</u> that want so bad – to destroy us

& remember – the battle ALWAYS BEGINS IN OUR MINDS!!

#### That's why Paul says so clearly in 1Cor 10:4-5

4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,

5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

#### <u>Don't be</u> <u>so easily DUPED</u> by your <u>3 enemies</u>; Your **Flesh** – The **World** – The **Devil** . . .

<u>Study the Bible</u> about these weapons – <u>Pray</u> about these weapons <u>Be Discipled</u> in <u>the Battle</u> of Spiritual Warfare

& you will learn to <u>Guard your mind</u> – which is <u>STEP # 3</u> of the "<u>Our-Part</u>" Part . . .

**SOOOO** . . . to summarize

# In order to be able to say with Paul in Phil 4:13 13 I can do [be strong for] all things through Christ who strengthens me . . .

## FIRST – we've got to Learn - & - Know God's Part;

1) His **Providence** 

(He's at work right now . . .)

2) His **Power** 

(always available to be "poured into" you)

3) His **Promises** 

('In Christ' you already HAVE overwhelming Victory)

## SECOND - we've got to begin to Live Our Part;

A Surrendered Mind (& life)

A Renewed Mind (& life)

A **Guarded** Mind (& life)

& this **New Mind** (& **New Life**) comes from <u>a</u>

#### **Consistent - Focused - Dedication to:**

- 1) **<u>Daily Prayer</u>** *in the area* you need a <u>renovation</u>
- 2) **<u>Daily Bible Study</u>** *in the area* you need a <u>renovation</u>
- 3) **<u>Daily Discipleship</u>** *in the area* you need a <u>renovation</u>

You & I can truly be

READY for ALL things, In Christ who strengthens us STRONG for ALL things, In Christ who strengthens us

We can <u>learn the SECRET</u> of Living in <u>Peace & Contentment</u> independent of our external circumstances

We **truly can say** with Paul – *In the Right Meaning . . .* 

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me

# **Let's Pray**