

God's Promises, Christian
Giving & Contentment, Part 2

Today we see that Jesus supplies richly even as we give beyond ability, so that we remain content (or learn contentment) in all circumstances.

Q :) Does Paul's comment mean that he doesn't need the Philippians, or that he has supernatural abilities?

- The word all means all or everything. But, in the context Paul is speaking of living in hunger or living in abundance.
- Balancing Need and Contentment, vs. 11-14: Paul provides principals that reveal current need never eliminates contentment in Christ.
1 Co. 4:11, 12. 2 Co. 6:10; 8:9; 11:27

Contentment: It is not a passive acceptance of the status quo, but the positive assurance that God has supplied one's needs, and the consequent release from unnecessary desire. The Christian can be 'self-contained' because he has been satisfied by the grace of God (2 Cor. 12:9).

Discontentment: Discontentment counts the provisions of God as nothing.

-New Bible Dictionary

Outcome of Discontentment:

- Discontentment is rebellion- Joshua 6:18; Joshua 7:11; Jos 7:12; Joshua 7:21; Joshua 7:25

- Covetousness kills/Covetousness defiles many- 2 Samuel 11
- Provokes bitterness in others- 1 Kings 21; Numbers 36:7
- Covetousness causes discontentment- Numbers 21:1-9
- Is sin- Deut. 5:21
- Is Idolatry- Col. 3:5
- It calls God a Liar- Phil. 4:19
- It says that God is not enough- Hebrews 13:5-6
- Is Stronger and Bigger than Us- 1 Cor. 15: 56-57
- Yet we are Victorious in Him- 1 Peter 1:17-21

- Paul states that over a period of years he has learned, been initiated into the secret, the rare jewel, living the life of contentment.
1 Co. 4:9-13. 2 Co. 6:4-10; 10:1, 10; 11:7, 27; 12:7-10
- Paul encourages the Philippians to embrace the sovereignty of God, whether in lack or abundance, continue to rejoice and share with those in need.
Jhn. 15:4, 5, 7. 2 Co. 3:4, 5; Ep. 3:16; 6:10. Col. 1:11. Is. 40:29-31; 41:10; 45:24. 3 Jhn. 5-8. Ro. 15:27. 1 Co. 9:10, 11. Ga. 6:6
- How does Contentment Happen? Dying to self!
Gal. 5:24; 2 Cor. 10:4-6; 1Thess. 5:18; Phil. 4:14

Closing, learning contentment, that rare and precious jewel, requires humility and an acceptance of the sovereignty of God.

Digging Deeper...

Have you found that giving to God always reveals a reciprocal principal-God always supplies-you cannot out give God?

Explain.

If you have not found this principal, test God in giving to Him; He will always supply abundantly. 2 Cor. 9:8

If you are a Christian, the greatest blessings in life are already yours. Heaven is your home, and God is your Father. He has promised never to leave you (Heb. 13:5), and He will supply your every need (Phil. 4:19). How green the grass is on your side of the fence!
—R. W. D. (Our Daily Bread)



God's Promises, Christian
Giving, & Contentment
Part 2
Pastor Stuart Boyer
May 28, 2023