

Lesson 2: Contentment

Introduction:

- **Discontentment**
 - Don't need to be instructed
 - Don't need to be learned
 - Natural weakness

Preview:

- **Contentment**
 - Useful, comprehensive, applicable, ever-expedient, convenient
 - Tempers the flesh, clings to Christ
 - Versatile, all-purpose
- The measuring rod and reflection of godliness, birthed and the fruit of godliness, but isn't godliness itself.

Sermon:

Philippians 4:11-13

{11} Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. {12} I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. {13} I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

- **"I have learned"**
 - Doesn't naturally possess
 - We see Paul learn "contentment" throughout the doctrine in which he teaches
- **The nature of "contentment"**
 - **"in whatsoever state I am"**
 - "state" - condition, circumstances of a being or thing at any given time
- **Declaration of "learning contentment"**
 - **"I know both how to be abased"**
 - Reduced to a low state; depress, to throw or cast down; degrade of passions, rank, office, and condition of life
 - Depression is oftentimes the uncomfortability or lack of knowing how to be abased, humbled
 - How can you be in a position of not having much where it is natural to be discontent to be content therein?
 - **"I know how to abound"**
 - Great quantity of provisions, things, to have plenty
 - How can you be in a position of having much and not becoming prideful, puffed up, and make riches your idol?

- **"how"** - way or manner; extent, degree - contentment is achieved by the Word of God
 - By product of the "spiritually minded" - the word of Christ dwelling rich within you
- **"every where"** - doesn't matter location
- **"in all things"** - situations and circumstances
- Instructed
 - Not only information we don't innately possess, but
 - Supplied by God
 - To be content
- **"I can do all things through Christ which strengthened me."**
 - Here the will of God isn't whether you are abased or abound, but how to be in those states
 - The Word of Christ strengthens us

Conclusion:

- **Philippians 4:19**
 - **"But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."**