

Series: Philippians: That We May Know Him

Text: Philippians 4:10-13

HI: Christ is enough.

Title: *The Secret to Contentment*

Hook: What could be better?

Date: 11.19.23

Purpose: To encourage God's people with the joy of contentment in union with Christ.

FCF: Like the readers of this text, our joy is easily swayed by our circumstances. God's grace in Christ gives us contentment through the strength that Christ provides us.

COR: We live in a never satisfied world, yet we long for satisfaction. The gospel tells of us a place where we can find rest, in union with Christ.

Witness of Christ [WC*]: There is true rest in Christ. In him, we receive forgiveness of sins, relationship with our father in heaven, the presence of the Holy Spirit within us, and this allows us to rest content, without looking to satisfy our need for an identity, a rightness, or a future in other things.

Apologetic:

Text Tone: Encouragement

Preaching Voice: Sage

Form: Inductive

Call to Worship: Philippians 3:13-14

Benediction: Philippians 4:4

Outline:

I. There is great joy in gratitude. (10)

A. Christ made the Philippians generous.

II. There is powerful peace in contentment. (11-12)

A. Christ brought Paul real peace.

III. There is limitless strength in Christ. (13)

A. Christ offers us true rest.

Main Idea:

Subject: What is Paul's secret to contentment in every circumstance?

Complement: The strength that Christ provides.

Exegetical Idea: Paul's secret to contentment in every circumstance is the strength that Christ provides.

Theological Idea: Christ provides his people with everything they need to face all circumstances with contentment.

Homiletical Idea: Christ is enough.

Introduction:

READ Philippians 4:10-13

¹⁰ I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹ Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹² I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

I. There is great joy in gratitude. (10)

RE-READ Philippians 4:11-12

¹¹ Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹² I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

II. There is powerful peace in contentment. (11-12)

Saint Augustine, *Confessions*, "Thou movest us to delight in praising Thee; for Thou hast formed us for Thyself, and our hearts are restless till they find rest in Thee."

Rejoice in the Lord: ² Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. James 1:2-4

Spurgeon: "I have known several of God's children who seemed quite eminent for piety when they were abased, but they were never worth anything after they grew rich. They did not know how to abound; they became top-lofty, and far too great for their place...Satisfied with earth, they are content to do without heaven."

Stoic: "I'm enough"

READ Philippians 4:13

¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

III. There is limitless strength in Christ. (13)

2 Timothy 4:16-18: ¹⁶At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! ¹⁷But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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Conclusion:

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