

Contentment in Christ

From Detachment to Reality

Philippians 4:10-23

¹⁰ I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were 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.

Philippians 4:10-23

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 all this through him who gives me strength.

Philippians 4:10-23

¹⁴ Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles.

¹⁵ Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only [...]

Philippians 4:10-23

¹⁶for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need.

¹⁷Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account.

Philippians 4:10-23

¹⁸ I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent.

Philippians 4:10-23

They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

²⁰ To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Philippians 4:10-23

²¹ Greet all God's people in Christ Jesus. The brothers and sisters who are with me send greetings. ²² All God's people here send you greetings, especially those who belong to Caesar's household.

²³ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

What do you do when you do
get what you want?

Detachment says: “Maybe yes, Maybe no.”

The Gospel says: “Watch and see.”

Obstacle 1- Possessions

Pauls says, “I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty.”

The world says, “I know what it is to be in need.
And I strive to not depend on anyone but myself.
I have learned the secret of being content is to
take care of myself and get what I want.”



Obstacle 2- Power

Paul- “I can do all this through him who gives me strength.”

The World- “I can do all this on my own because I am strong.”

Obstacle 3- Pain



"If I find in myself a desire which nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world."

C.S Lewis

The secret is perspective

1. When in your life have you mistaken “comfort” for true contentment? What did you learn from that experience?
2. How is Christian contentment different from detachment?
3. What role might community play in regards to experiencing contentment in Christ?