

## Contentment in Suffering

- **Contentment is gained by Metamorphosis**
- **Contentment is gained by discovering new duties**
- **Contentment by melting his will into God's will**

### Contentment Lives on the Dew of God's Blessing

- We have the love of God
  - Purchased by Christ
- Sees God's love in affliction
  - Ps 25:10

Phil 4: 11b for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content.

Contentment is desiring nothing but to belong to the Lord and be entirely at his disposal. To be well skilled in the mystery of contentment is the duty, glory, and excellency of a Christian.

- **Contentment Learned not Made**
- **Contentment is in God's Character**
- **Contentment is Grounded in Our Identity**

**Contentment Defined:** Christian contentment is that sweet, inward, quiet, gracious, frame of spirit, freely submitting to, and taking delight in God's wise, and fatherly disposal in every condition.

### Having a Quiet Spirit does not mean:

- That we do not acknowledge a due sense of affliction
- Suffering in silence
- We shouldn't endeavor to alleviate suffering or better our condition

### A Quiet Spirit is opposed to:

- Murmuring
- Vexing and fretting
- A tumultuousness of spirit -1 Cor 14:33
- Interrupted service to the Lord -Nehemiah 6:3
- Distracted heart eating cares and fears

- Sinking discouragements

2 Kings 7:2-3

2 Kings 3:17

- Shirking and sinful shifting
- Desperate risings of the heart against God in rebellion

### Frame of Spirit

- Contentment is Soul Business
- Grace that touches judgment, the will, the affections
  - Ps 42 and 43
  - Rom 8:28

### This Frame of Spirit is NOT

- Natural stillness
- Sturdy resolution
- Stoicism

### A Frame Freely Submitting

- It takes pleasure in God's good pleasure
  - 1 Samuel 3:16-18
  - Job 1:21, 2:10
- It takes pleasure in the moment of affliction
  - Prov 16:6
  - Phil 4:18
- Submits to God's Authority In the Specific

### Art of Contentment - series of paradoxes

- **A Christian is content, yet unsatisfied**
  - Philippians 4:7-9
  - Ps 73:21:26
- **A Christian Comes to Contentment by Subtraction**
  - This is the bottom and root of all contentment, when there is an evenness and proportion between our hearts and our conditions.
- **Contentment is gained by adding another burden**