

To Be or Not to Be CONTENT?

Text: Philippians 4:10-13 Date: December 26, 2021

INTRODUCTION

In Philippians 4:10-13, Paul makes it clear that whether we are experiencing easy circumstances or hard, financial hardship or security, comfort or discomfort, we can experience a supernatural joy and peace and contentment no matter the circumstances.

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. 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.

Paul was no stranger to hardship (2 Corinthians 11:23-29) and yet could say “I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation.” And what is that secret?

I can do all things THROUGH CHRIST who gives me strength. Couple things to note from verse 10:

This is your birthright as a child of God.

This is a supernatural work of Jesus in you.

ADDITIONAL PRINCIPLES

In Order to Put ON Contentment, You Must Put OFF Coveting

We Live in a Kingdom That is “Here, But Not Yet”

If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world. – C.S. Lewis

Questions for Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

1. In what sense is contentment a choice and not a feeling?
2. How does being “in Christ” impact your ability to make this choice?
3. In what ways are you struggling with a “It’s not enough” attitude right now? Ask the Holy Spirit to help you to name specific areas of coveting/lust.
4. Take time to repent of each area and speak the words “It is enough” over every area of disappointment in your life.
5. How does the reality that we live in a Kingdom that is “here, but not yet” impact your ability to choose contentment over disappointment/dissatisfaction?