

# Content? Notes

## Philippians 4:10-13

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### March 29-30, 2025

**Main Point:** God will give you everything you need, when you need it, to the degree that you need it.

Have we allowed our circumstances to dictate our contentment? Have we allowed people to dictate our contentment?

#### Definition

1. Contentment is the belief that I have \_\_\_\_\_ I need at this present moment.
2. It is also the confidence that if I need anything else, God will \_\_\_\_\_ it to me.
3. It is also the certainty that when I need anything else, God will give it to me, in His perfect \_\_\_\_\_, to the extent in what I need.
4. True contentment means understanding that at any given moment we have everything we \_\_\_\_\_ need.

#### Contentment

1. We almost certainly don't have everything we \_\_\_\_\_, and we probably don't have everything we think we need.
2. We live in a culture that is \_\_\_\_\_ content.
3. We have an unquenchable appetite for our wants and a feeling of \_\_\_\_\_ to our perceived needs.

#### Paul's Situation

1. Paul is sitting in a Roman prison, chained to a Roman guard.
2. He is awaiting his trial before Nero, with the very real possibility of \_\_\_\_\_.
3. We see that spiritually regardless of his circumstance, or possibly because of his circumstances, Paul is \_\_\_\_\_!
4. At the same time Paul is going through all of this, he was writing this letter to the church in Philippi, trying to \_\_\_\_\_ them.

#### How Do I Learn to be Content in All Situations?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ in God's providence (vs. 10).
  - The Greek adjective for "greatly" was used to describe something of significant size, importance, or \_\_\_\_\_.
  - In the New Testament, this word for "greatly" often emphasized the \_\_\_\_\_ of God's works, the authority of Jesus, or the impact of events.
  - Epaphroditus was sent from the Philippian church to bring Paul supplies.
2. Be \_\_\_\_\_ with little and have no wants beyond what is necessary (vs. 11).
  - He was excited about how God would \_\_\_\_\_ their gifts to produce spiritual fruit.
  - The English word "content" is a translation of a Greek word that means "self-\_\_\_\_\_."
  - Self-sufficiency can be used in a favorable sense. It is good to be as responsible and self-sufficient as possible (2 Thessalonians 3:10)
  - It wasn't the stuff Epaphroditus brought that Paul was excited about, it was \_\_\_\_\_ Himself that Paul was excited about.

- Claiming that Jesus wasn't just enough, but Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_ enough, regardless of the circumstances.
  - Unless Jesus is enough, you will never have enough.
  - Being content in all situations was something he had to \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 11).
3. Live \_\_\_\_\_ of circumstances (vs. 12).
- Paul has learned that you can thrive \_\_\_\_\_ in all circumstances.
  - Paul was in a place where he wasn't saying to find contentment in good and bad times, but that all the times he has determined are \_\_\_\_\_ times, when Christ is with you (Romans 8:28).
  - Culture says:
    - Contentment is found within.
    - Follow our hearts.
    - Go find yourself.
    - Just work hard and you can accomplish anything.
    - Think more positively.
    - You be you.
4. Understand the promise of \_\_\_\_\_ power (vs 13).
- Paul needed Jesus' strength...
    - To \_\_\_\_\_ (1:13)
    - To honor God in his flesh (1:20).
    - To humble himself, to trust and submit to God (2:17).
    - To continue to hope for \_\_\_\_\_ to send others out to proclaim the gospel and for the church to be blessed (2:19).
    - To continue suffering loss for the sake of Christ (3:9-11).
    - To \_\_\_\_\_ on toward the prize of the upward call (3:14).
  - Philippian Church needed God's strength...
    - To continue to partner in the Gospel (1:4).
    - To live pure and blameless, filled with the fruit of righteousness (1:9).
    - To be \_\_\_\_\_ of the Gospel, standing firm with one spirit, one mind, striving together for the sake of the Gospel (1:27).
    - To have the mind of Christ (2:2).
    - To always obey with fear and trembling (2:12-13).
    - Not to \_\_\_\_\_ but be a light in a dark world (2:14).
    - To face false teacher, false prophets that came to the church to destroy them and divide unity (3:1-3).
    - To imitate the example of Paul and continue to press toward the goal (3:17).
    - To stand \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord (4:1).
    - To rejoice in the Lord and not to be anxious (4:5-7).
  - There was no human explanation to the peace and contentment that Paul was experiencing, that nothing was shaking Paul because of \_\_\_\_\_!
  - The Greek verb used here for secret, means to \_\_\_\_\_ into the mysteries.
  - It conveyed the idea of learning something that was not immediately \_\_\_\_\_ or accessible to everyone.

### Action Steps

1. Place your faith and trust in Him.
2. Keep our eyes on Jesus.
3. Thank God for the ways He has provided.