
GOD SUPPLIES OUR NEEDS

We've discussed so much these past ten weeks! In chapter four we have talked about the secret to having peace with God, how to have contentment despite our circumstances and our ability to draw upon God's resources. In the final verses of this chapter, Paul is commending the Philippian believers for their faithful support of him and his ministry. Let's look at it.

Here are our verses for today. Philippians 4:14-19 says,

“Nevertheless, you have done well to share with me in my affliction.

You yourselves also know, Philippians, that at the first preaching of the gospel, after I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving but you alone; for even in Thessalonica you sent a gift more than once for my needs.

Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account. But I have received everything in full and have an abundance; I am amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God. And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.”

Let's look quickly verse by verse at what Paul is telling the Philippians.

Vs. 14: The believers are receiving commendation for providing for Paul's physical needs. Are we providing for the needs of those in ministry? God doesn't always ask us to provide monetarily, but we can use our time, our talents, and pray for those in ministry and in leadership.

Vs. 15: The Philippians were the only church that provided financially for Paul while he was in Macedonia. Even if God doesn't give us an abundance, He tells us that He will always provide for our needs. We should rely on this promise and be willing to provide for the needs of others through what God gives us.

Vs. 16: While Paul was in Thessalonica, the Philippians sent him support on two different occasions. We are not called to give once and then forget those we are supporting. We are called to be sensitive to God's leading and give when He directs.

Vs. 17: Paul is letting them know that his desire for them to continue supporting him is for their benefit and not his own. **Read Acts 20:35.**

We will produce fruit when we are following God in supporting the ministry of others. Giving not only produces joy in the lives of others, but in our own life when we are following God's leadership.

Vs. 18: Paul is updating the Philippians on his condition. He is living in abundance at the time of his writing the letter because of their support. He reminds them that their gifts are pleasing to God. Our righteous deeds are pleasing to God as well. Remember, righteousness is living according to the blueprint He has designed for us. It pleases God when we fulfill that plan.

Vs. 19: "But my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." What an incredible promise! If we rely on this promise, we will have a relaxed mental attitude in regards to our circumstances. Remember when we looked at spiritual maturity? One of the floors is learning to operate in a relaxed mental attitude. Our mind can relax when we trust God with every circumstance. Remember, we don't have to wrestle with the why, how, what, when and where of life, we just need to trust His promises. This promise tells us that God will satisfy to the full every one of our needs according to His riches in the sphere of His glory in Christ. Let's stop and think about the fullness of this promise! God is so good!

God promises that He will satisfy to the full every one of our needs. So many times we think we know what we need, but when we finally get what we wanted, there is no satisfaction. If we allow God to fulfill our needs, He promises that every single one of our needs will be satisfied to the full. The God of the universe, the One who created us and knows us better than any other, will supply everything we need to the full. Why do we ever doubt God's provision?!

Was there a time in your life when you doubted God's provision but He provided for you anyway? Write about it here.

But that's not the end of the promise! Our needs will be fulfilled, God says, according to His riches in the sphere of His glory, meaning His attributes, and, in the sphere of Christ, meaning all is fulfilled because we are in Christ. Are God's riches exhaustible? No! God will supply to the full every single one of our needs according to His riches. There is nothing that God doesn't have the ability to provide for us. If we need it, God has the ability to supply it!

The promise also tells us that our needs will be provided in the sphere of His glory in the sphere of Christ. Not only will God supply to the full every single one of our needs for those who are in Christ, but He will do it for His glory! Wow! Not only is our God capable of that, He is willing to do that because He loves us! The promises of God are amazing!

Read and write Philippians 4:19 here. Take time to pray and thank God for His amazing provision!

REVIEW

- ~ We need to be sensitive to God's leading so we know He is asking us to give financially.
- ~ Supporting a ministry doesn't have to be done monetarily, it can be done through time, talents, or always in prayer.
- ~ Giving produces joy for the giver and the receiver.
- ~ Giving under the leadership of God is pleasing to Him.
- ~ God will supply everything we need perfectly according to His glory for those in Christ Jesus.