

“The Secret of Contentment”

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Philippians 4:10-13

4.8.18

Introduction:

- A. All the world lives in two tents - _____ and _____.
- B. Definition of “content”: Having the _____ limited to what one _____.
- C. Paul discovered that contentment comes from a trust in our _____ realities rather than a focus on our _____ circumstances.

I. Contentment Comes from Putting Our Trust in the Unfailing _____ of God

- A. Paul discovered that contentment is something that has to be _____.
- B. Most of us keep looking for contentment in the _____.
- C. Paul learned to be content regardless of _____ he was with, what _____ he held, or what _____ he had.
- D. Paul learned that he could do all things through _____ who gave him _____.
- E. The devil wants us to believe two lies:
 - 1. That _____ make a person happy.
 - 2. That all we need is found _____.

II. Contentment Comes from Putting Our Trust in the Unchanging _____ of God

- A. The unchanging promise of God is that He will meet all our _____.
- B. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said that God knows what we _____ (Mt. 6:28-33).
- C. How God will meet our needs is _____.
- D. Paul’s attitude could be summed up in this quote: “I am always content with what happens; for I know what God chooses is _____ than what I choose.”
- E. The secret to contentment is trusting that God will give what I _____, and being satisfied with what He _____ (1 Tim. 6:6-8; Heb. 13:5-6).
- F. Suggestions for becoming a more content person:
 - 1. Refuse to _____ yourself with others.
 - 2. Love _____ the way they are and not as you would like them to be.
 - 3. Accept _____ as they are and not like we would like for them to be.

Conclusion:

- A. One final things in this passage that leads to contentment is knowing that we are bringing _____ to _____ (Phil. 4:18).
- B. Truths about giving:
 - 1. Giving affects the _____ (Phil. 4:16-17).
 - 2. Giving affects the _____ (Mt. 6:19-24; 1 Tim. 6:19).
 - 3. Giving affects the _____ (Phil. 4:18)

Answer Key: Intro.A. content, discontent. B. desires, has. C. spiritual, physical. I. Power. I.A. learned. I.B. wrong, places. I.C. who, positions, possessions. I.D. Christ, strength. I.E.1. things. I.E.2. within, us. II. Promise. II.A. needs. II.B. need. II.C. varied. II.D. better. II.E. need, gives. I.F.1. compare. I.F.2. people. I.F.3. things. Conclusion. A. glory, God. B.1. Receiver. B.2. Giver. B.3. Lord.