

Mini-Series: Growing in Power
The Secret to Contentment Pt. 1
Philippians 4:10-12

Introduction:

Christian Contentment – is that sweet, inward, quiet, gracious frame of spirit, which freely submits to and delights in God’s wise and fatherly sovereignty in every condition.

Puritan Jeremiah Burroughs

The 5 Principles of Contentment:

1. A **Contented Person** is confident in God’s Providence
 2. A **Contented Person** is satisfied with little
 3. A **Contented Person** is independent from circumstances
 4. A **Contented Person** is strengthened by divine power
 5. A **Contented Person** is preoccupied with the well-being of others.
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I. A Contented Person is Confident in God’s Providence v.10

- a. Paul was content because he knew that the times, seasons, and opportunities of life are controlled by our sovereign God Eph 1:11
- b. Our confident trust in God’s providence is foundational to contentment
- c. God works through Providence and Miracles

Please Turn over

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II. A Contented Person is Satisfied with Little v.11

- a. Paul learned to be content in whatever circumstances he found himself
- b. Though his situation was extremely difficult, Paul was not discontent.
- c. Paul knew true contentment comes only from God, and enables believers to be satisfied and at ease in the midst of any problem.

III. A Contented Person is Independent of Circumstances v.12

- a. Paul learned by experience and spiritual maturity to live above his circumstances and not allow them to affect his contentment.
- b. Paul's life was not exactly a testimonial for the prosperity gospel 2 Cor 11:23-33
- c. We are to keep our focus on heavenly realities Col 3:1-2
- d. Our trials and troubles are light and momentary and our eternal reward far outweighs them all 2 Cor 4:17