

Mini-Series: Growing in Power
The Secret to Contentment Pt. 2
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 Strengthened by Divine Power v.13

- a. His capacity and sufficiency came from his union with the all Powerful and Merciful Jesus Christ Gal 2:20
- b. God gives power to us in our weakness Isa 40:29-31

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- II. A Contented Person is Preoccupied with the Well-Being of Others vss. 14-19**
 - a. Those who live for themselves will never be content
 - b. Only those who unselfishly **put others well-being above their own** will find contentment.

- III. The Nobility of Their Gift vss. 15-16**
 - a. Paul takes them back in time to establish the Nobility of the Philippians gift

- IV. The Evidence of Other's Well-Being v. 17**
 - a. The Philippians gift brought Paul joy not because of its personal material benefit to him, but because of its spiritual benefit to them Prov 11:24-25 / Luke 6:38

- V. Paul's Joy and Gratitude for their Gift v.18a**
 - a. Paul summarized his joy and gratitude
 - i. I have received everything in full
 - ii. I have an abundance
 - iii. I am amply supplied

- VI. Philippians gift was a Sacrificial One v.18b**
 - a. The Philippians gave greatly out of their poverty.
 - b. We are commanded to be a holy sacrifice to God Rom 12:1

- VII. Can't Beat God Giving v.19**
 - a. Paul knew the Philippians would receive spiritual blessings, but also that God would supply all their physical needs