

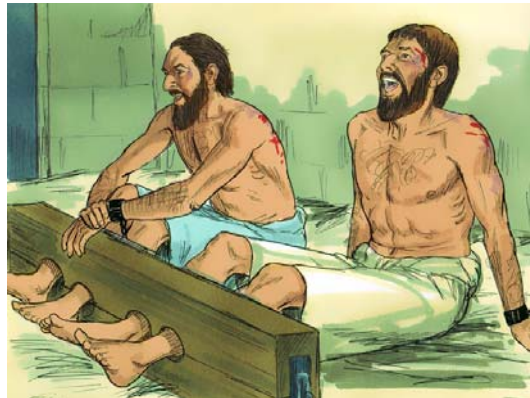
whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through Him who gives me strength” . Paul’s relationship with God superseded whatever he did or did not have. His contentment was not based on his circumstances, but on his relationship with Christ.

Paul reminds us that contentment doesn’t happen overnight. It’s something that we learn. As our relationship with God develops over time and through experiences, we learn to trust God more and ourselves less. Paul knew that Christ would give him the strength to persevere in whatever situation he encountered (v.13).

No matter what you’re facing today, through prayer you can receive the strength to be content. —Albert Lee

The world is filled with so much good
That brings us joy and pleasure,
But true fulfilment only comes
When Christ, we love and treasure. —Sper

We find contentment at the same place we find salvation—in Christ.



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Central Mountains Baptist Church

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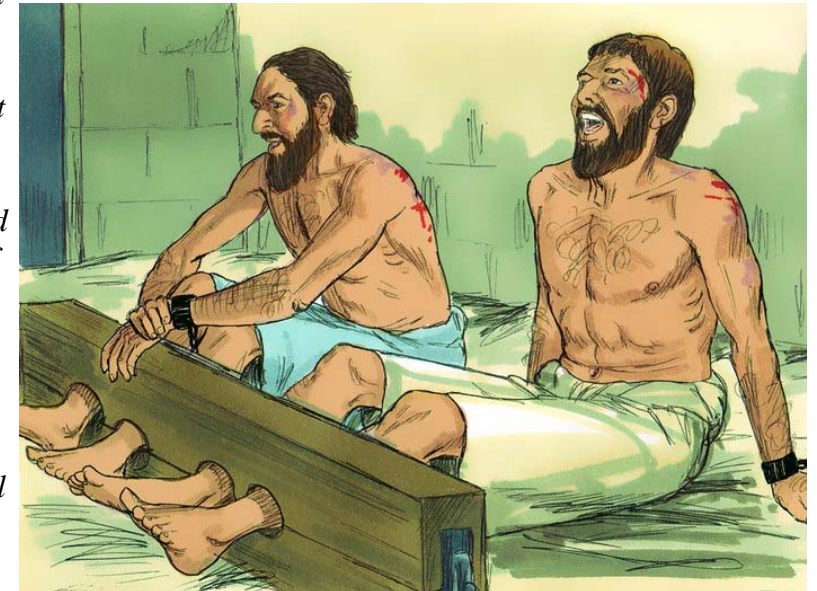
Contentment

In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. —1 Thessalonians 5:18

A poet once wrote: “As a rule, man’s a fool. When it’s hot, he wants it cool. And when it’s cool, he wants it hot. Always wanting what is not.”

What an insightful observation on human nature! So when we read in Philippians 4:11, “I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content” we wonder, *Can this be possible?*

For Paul it was. Philippians 4:12-13 describes Paul’s response to life: “I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry,





People

The Quadratic Formula

Philippians 4:11-13

(John 14:27) *"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."*

There are four essentials to having a settled heart, at rest:

1. Right _____,

(Genesis 15:6) *"And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness."*

(Genesis 42:20) *"And bring your youngest brother to me; so your words will be verified, and you shall not die." ..."*

(Hebrews 11:1) *"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."*

(Romans 4:3) *"For what does the Scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.'"*

(Romans 4:5) *"But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,"*

(Isaiah 26:3) *"You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You."*

2. Right _____, Philippians 4:8, 11-13

(Romans 12:2) *"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."*

(Ephesians 4:17-18) *"This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, {18} having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;"*

(Ephesians 4:20-23) *"But you have not so learned Christ, {21} if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: {22} that you put off, .. the old man ..., {23} and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,"*

(2 Corinthians 10:5) *"casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,"*

(Proverbs 4:23) *"Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life."*

(Acts 16:25) *"But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them."*



(Psalms 63:1-5) *"O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You In a dry and thirsty land Where there is no water. {2} So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, To see Your power and Your glory. {3} Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, My lips shall praise You. {4} Thus I will bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name. {5} My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, And my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips."*

(Psalms 107:8-9) *"Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men! {9}*

For He satisfies the longing soul, And fills the hungry soul with goodness."

3. Right _____,

(Matthew 15:19) *"For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies."*

(Ephesians 4:17-24) *"This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, {18} having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; {19} who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness."*

{20} *But you have not so learned Christ, {21} if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: {22} that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, {23} and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, {24} and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness."*



4. Right _____, Philippians 4:11-13

(Matthew 15:17-18) *"Do you not yet understand that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and is eliminated? {18} But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man."*

(Matthew 12:34-35) *"Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. {35} A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things."*

(Ephesians 4:29-32) *"Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. {30} And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. {31} Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. {32} And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you."*

