

THAT ELUSIVE VIRTUE CALLED – “CONTENTMENT” Pt. 2 (Philippians 4:10-13)

I. CONTENTMENT WITH REGARDS TO DAILY NEEDS (4:10-13)

A. Paul was able to _____ in the Lord because He met his needs by motivating the Philippian believers to send a _____ gift to support him and his ministry. (4:10a)

* Is money a legitimate reason to worry?

1. The apostle was touched that these believers were concerned for him; the phrase “*your care for me*” is literally the act of _____ on _____ of me. (4:10b)

2. Apparently the Philippians had desired to get this gift to Paul at an _____ but they “*lacked opportunity*”; for whatever reason it was not able to be sent until now. (4:10c)

B. Paul stressed to the believers in Philippi that he had _____ some valuable lessons when it came to _____. (4:11-12)

1. He had learned how to be _____, which is somewhat elusive to most materialistic Americans who not only have their basic _____ met, but also most of their _____. (4:11)

2. The word “*learned*” has all of his learning experiences in view as a whole; it took both _____ and _____ to produce this inner conviction of true contentment.

3. By experience Paul now knew how to make ends meet with only _____ means, which meant at times he went _____ and even suffered _____. (4:12a)

4. By experience he also knew how to get along with an _____, which meant to be full and _____. (4:12b)

- C. The conclusion that the apostle came to ("*I can do all things*") was _____ at all egotistical, but rather he had discovered that the more _____ upon Christ that he became, the easier it was to face his trials (4:13)
 1. The word "_____" is emphasized in the Greek sentence; and it means not only all the things he just mentioned, but _____ in his life. (2 Cor. 9:8; 1 Pet. 4:11)

 2. What appeared to be self sufficiency was in reality a _____ of human resources and an acknowledgment of the all sufficiency of the One with whom he had spiritual _____. (Gal. 2:20)

 3. Paul never allowed his own personal weaknesses to be an _____ for inactivity; but rather he came to realize that his _____ could be used by his Master to spiritually enrich himself and others. (2 Cor. 12:7-10; 13:4)

 4. The apostle had discovered the profound truth that inner contentment was _____ found in deliverance from life's adversities, but it was only found in true _____ and _____ in Christ.

* How can this find application in your own life?