

Philippians Chapter Four B

v. 10-11 - Paul rejoices greatly in the Lord (last time in the book he uses “rejoice”) because of their expression of care for him, but the operative phrase is “in the Lord”. Although he was glad and thankful for the care and gifts that the Philippians sent, Paul’s rejoicing was in the Lord. Our rejoicing must be in the Lord and because of the Lord, who provides us with all things. The Lord who causes us to have favor with man. The Lord, who blesses those who bless others. He knew they always were thinking about him but lacked the opportunity until then to show it. Now their care for him was flourishing and fruitful. 11) Paul was not hinting for another gift. Again, the joy was because of the Lord. Paul had learned in whatsoever state he was therewith to be content. His satisfaction and sufficiency was in Christ, who was his everything. It is that resolve that says “okay, Lord, whatever you are doing, it’s alright with me. I’m just going to trust you and rest in your peace.”

v. 12 – Paul had learned over the years through his many experiences, trials, persecutions, victories, to be content. He knew BOTH how to be abased (have very little), and he knew how to abound (overflow, having more than enough). Everywhere (wherever he was) and in all things (under whatever conditions) he was instructed (taught) BOTH to be full and to be hungry, BOTH to abound and to suffer need.

v.13 – I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHICH STRENGTHENETH. Christ continually strengthens and empowers me by his great power and grace, so that I can endure anything, no matter what the circumstances. That know situation positive or negative, will overcome me and knock me off path. I trust and honor God in all situations. I am always victorious through him. God keeps pouring his power into me.

v. 15-17 – In the beginning of Paul’s missionary work in Macedonia, only the Philippians sent gifts of support, even while he was in Thessalonica. Again, Paul was not hinting for another gift, but he was desiring that the Philippians receive fruit from the gifts that they sowed. That God who keeps excellent accounts, would pay them back bountifully..

v. 18, - Paul was in a state of abounding, having received more than enough in their gifts from Epaphroditus. Their sacrifice was like a sweet fragrance (Gen 8:20-21; Ex. 29:18) Generous giving, motivated by love of and in the Lord always smells good to God, is well pleasing.

v. 19 – BUT MY GOD SHALL SUPPLY ALL YOUR NEED ACCORDING TO HIS RICHES IN GLORY BY CHRIST JESUS! As we give unto the Lord, not only of our substance, but also of our hearts, our trust, our obedience, etc., God will be our supply from his riches in glory....by Christ Jesus. We cannot forget the “by Christ Jesus.” It is only because of him that we have any claim to the love and care of God.

v.20-23 – Paul closes giving praise to God our Father which we give glory to constantly, forever. The brothers with him salute them, especially those in Caesar’s household, which is a great reason for rejoicing. Paul’s imprisonment caused those in Caesar’s house, and of his family to hear the gospel and receive Christ as savior. It makes all the suffering worth it. Grace of Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.