



**Contentment: Learning to Become God-Sufficient**  
**Philippians 4:10-13**  
**Sunday, July 24, 2016**  
**Pastor Stephen Schultze**

**Introduction:** Paul's life was a practical example of God glorifying contentment. (*Philippians 4:9*)

**What realities do we learn through Paul's contentment?**

1. Contentment is displayed in a \_\_\_\_\_ . (*v. 10 & 13b*)  
*Scripture: Proverbs 17:22*
2. Contentment does not rely on \_\_\_\_\_ . (*v. 11a*)
3. Contentment does not rest on \_\_\_\_\_ . (*v. 11b-12*)  
*Scripture: 1 Timothy 6:6-8*
4. Contentment is rooted in \_\_\_\_\_ . (*v. 13*)  
*Scripture: Psalm 73:25-26*

The Greek word translated "contentment" literally means \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ .

How is Paul's meaning of "contentment" different from the Stoics of his day?

What do we learn of God's power from Paul's God-sufficiency?

- God's Power is \_\_\_\_\_ . "I can do...through him"  
*Scripture: 2 Peter 1:3; Psalms 68:35; Colossians 1:11*
- God's Power is \_\_\_\_\_ . "all things"  
*Scripture: Psalm 62:11; Isaiah 40:25-31*
- God's Power is \_\_\_\_\_ . "gives me strength"
- God's Power is \_\_\_\_\_ . "him who gives"  
*Scripture: Psalms 68:35; 115:3; 2 Corinthians 12:9-10*

God provides His \_\_\_\_\_ to His \_\_\_\_\_ to accomplish His \_\_\_\_\_ .

True contentment is found in \_\_\_\_\_-sufficiency, not \_\_\_\_\_sufficiency.

**"It is not by trusting my own faithfulness,  
but by looking away to the sufficiency of Christ."**

*Hudson Taylor on contentment*

## How Is Contentment Learned?

1. Through the Consideration of \_\_\_\_\_.

*Scripture:* Romans 8:28-34; 15:4; Genesis 50:20; Psalm 46:1-2; Hebrews 13:5

2. Through the Contemplation of \_\_\_\_\_.

*Scripture:* Romans 8:35-39; Ephesians 1:3-14; Jude 1:24

If Jesus' incarnation and death don't convince you of His \_\_\_\_\_  
and creation and His resurrection don't convince you of His \_\_\_\_\_,  
then nothing remains to convince you.

3. Through the Participation in \_\_\_\_\_.

*Scripture:* Romans 5:3-4; James 1:2-4

4. Through the Anticipation of \_\_\_\_\_.

*Scripture:* 2 Corinthians 4:16-18; 1 Peter 1:7-8

“Christians enjoy contentment in the little they have,  
because the little that they have is a down-payment  
for all the glory that is reserved for them.”  
*Jeremiah Burroughs, “The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment”*

## Conclusion:

Ultimately, the secret to true contentment is found in one question: Do you TRUST GOD?

Grow in \_\_\_\_\_ and you'll grow in \_\_\_\_\_.

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### “It is Well With My Soul”

*Horatio G. Spafford*

#### Verse 1:

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

#### Verse 5:

But, Lord, 'tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait,  
The sky, not the grave, is our goal;  
Oh, trump of the angel! Oh, voice of the Lord!  
Blessed hope, blessed rest of my soul.



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**Introduction:** Paul's life was a practical example of God glorifying contentment. (*Philippians 4:9*)

## What realities do we learn through Paul's contentment?

1. Contentment is displayed in a **JOYOUS SPIRIT**. (*v. 10 & 13b*)  
*Scripture: Proverbs 17:22*
2. Contentment does not rely on **HUMAN PROVISION**. (*v. 11a*)
3. Contentment does not rest on **CONTEMPORARY CIRCUMSTANCES**. (*v. 11b-12*)  
*Scripture: 1 Timothy 6:6-8*
4. Contentment is rooted in **DIVINE POWER**. (*v. 13*)  
*Scripture: Psalm 73:25-26*

The Greek word translated "contentment" literally means **SELF-SUFFICIENT**.

How is Paul's meaning of "contentment" different from the Stoics of his day?

What do we learn of God's power from Paul's God-sufficiency?

- God's Power is **ACCESSIBLE**. "I can do...through him"  
*Scripture: 2 Peter 1:3; Psalms 68:35; Colossians 1:11*
- God's Power is **SUFFICIENT**. "all things"  
*Scripture: Psalm 62:11; Isaiah 40:25-31*
- God's Power is **PERSONAL**. "gives me strength"
- God's Power is **PROVIDENTIAL**. "him who gives"  
*Scripture: Psalms 68:35; 115:3; 2 Corinthians 12:9-10*

-God provides His **POWER** to His **PEOPLE** to accomplish His **PLEASURES**.

True contentment is found in **God-sufficiency**, not **self-sufficiency**.

"It is not by trusting my own faithfulness,  
but by looking away to the sufficiency of Christ."

*Hudson Taylor on contentment*

## How Is Contentment Learned?

1. Through the Consideration of **God's Providence.**

*Scripture:* Romans 8:28-34; 15:4; Genesis 50:20; Psalm 46:1-2; Hebrews 13:5

2. Through the Contemplation of **Christ's Treasures.**

*Scripture:* Romans 8:35-39; Ephesians 1:3-14; Jude 1:24

If Jesus' death doesn't convince you of His **LOVE**  
and creation and His resurrection don't convince you of His **POWER**,  
then nothing remains to convince you.

3. Through the Participation in **Life's Testings.**

*Scripture:* Romans 5:3-4; James 1:2-4

4. Through the Anticipation of **Heaven's Glories.**

*Scripture:* 2 Corinthians 4:16-18; 1 Peter 1:7-8

"Christians enjoy contentment in the little they have,  
because the little that they have is a down-payment  
for all the glory that is reserved for them."

*Jeremiah Burroughs, "The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment"*

## Conclusion:

Ultimately, the secret to true contentment is found in one question: Do you TRUST GOD?

Grow in **TRUSTING GOD** and you'll grow in **GODLY CONTENTMENT.**

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### "It is Well With My Soul"

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