

A Study of the Book of Philippians

Theme:

“OUR PARTNERSHIP IN THE GOSPEL!”

Trinity Lutheran Church Norman, OK.

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Lesson: 30

Chapter 4:10-13

Date: 6-7-20

BIBLE TEXT:

(1) *Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved. (2) I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. (3) Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.*

(4) *Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. (5) Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; (6) do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.*

(7) *And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

(8) *Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. (9) What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me--practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.*

(10) I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. (11) Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. (12) I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. (13) I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

(14) Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. (15) And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. (16) Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. (17) Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. (18) I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God.

(19) And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. (20) To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen. (21) Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers who are with me greet you. (22) All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household. (23) The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.



STUDY NOTES:

- I rejoiced in **the Lord** greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me.
You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity.
Note: Epaphroditus had brought to him a monetary gift to support the Gospel work
(2 Cor 11:9)
- Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content.
(Prov 15:16; 16:8; 2 Cor 9:8; 1 Tim 6:6-8; Heb 13:5)
- I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance,
I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.
(Rom 5:10; 8:28; 1 Cor 4:11; 6:10; 9:27; 2 Cor 11:9,27)
- I can do all things through **him who strengthens me.**
**(Is 40:29-31; Jn 15:5; 2 Cor 12:9,10; Eph 3:16,17;
Col 1:11; 1 Tim 1:12; 2 Tim 4:17)**

LIFE APPLICATION: Apply these four “I” statements to yourself:

1. **I have learned** in whatever situation **I am to be content.**
2. **I know how** to be brought low, and **I know how** to abound.
in any and every circumstance.
3. **I have learned** the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.
4. **I can do** all things through him who strengthens **me.**

LUTHER’S WORKS: Volume 28, Pages 369–370 “Contentment”

“There is great gain in godliness with **contentment**. Above, speaking about widows, he used the expression “Let her assist them” as well as this word “**contentment**.” When a person is **content**, let him be satisfied. The man who practices godliness and cuts off his greed is **content** with what he has. Cf. Heb. 13:5. There is a promptitude of the heart which is **content**. He is a rich man who is **content**. The man who is not **content** is unfortunate. That reminds one of the proverb which says: “Do you want to have something to boast about? Practice godliness with **contentment**.” This is true, but it is not believed.

There is nothing worse than a greedy man who is in need of a dollar—or, in fact, who needs a dime. He has no expense. Whatever he has is useless. Earlier (ch. 4:8) Paul said: “Godliness is valuable in every way, etc. “Seek first” (Matt. 6:33). “I will fill your bellies, even if heaven and earth are at stake.” But it doesn’t help. If you have been godly and **content**, that is great gain. Godliness is to worship God with the Word, that men may be made similar to God. The least and the reason.

For we brought nothing into this world. “Naked came I from my mother’s womb,” says Job (ch. 1:21). Consider where you come from. Before our eyes we see examples, but we are blindness itself. One gathers up treasure and doesn’t know for whom. He is intent on his gathering. If he is seeking gain, for whom? He doesn’t know. “And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?” (Luke 12:20). The title “fool” stands written above all treasures.”