

**The Book of Philippians**

Chapter 4, Part 2, Verse 9-23

**“All your Need According to His Riches”**

**Last week in Philippians chapter 4, we learned....**

**Philippians 4:6-7**

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

**Instead of worrying about things in our life, we are to turn those worries into prayers.**

1. **Come into the presence of the Lord** in a quiet place, and just worship Him first, even before we tell Him our concern or need.
2. **Be totally focused on the Lord**, with no distractions, praying with sincerity and honesty about our concern.
3. **Thanking the Lord** for all that he has already done, and that we know that He will make this also turn out for good.

**Then in verse 8 we learned to direct our thoughts to the things that will bring peace and security to our minds.**

**Philippians 4:8**

Finally, brethren, whatever things are **true**, whatever things are **noble**, whatever things are **just**, whatever things are **pure**, whatever things are **lovely**, whatever things are of **good report**, if there is any **virtue** and if there is **anything praiseworthy**—meditate on these things.

**And then, if we do these things...**

**Philippians 7**

7 ...the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus

**As we continue this morning, Paul says that “Now having learned these things about worry and how to handle them, and having seen how Paul handled worry himself, we are to follow his example.**

**Philippians 4:9**

The things which you **learned** and **received** and **heard** and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

**Notice the order here.**

1. **Hear** the Word of God taught.
2. **Learn**, from the Word, by study and meditation.
3. **Receive it**, that is accept it into your heart, not just your head.
4. **See**, observe someone who is really following Jesus, follow their example.
5. **Then do it yourself**. Begin to live a new life of **truth, righteousness, justice, purity and lovely things**.

It is not just in the hearing of these things that we will have peace, it is in the doing of these things that we will have peace.

Did you know that every person who has believed in Jesus as their Lord and Savior is a Minister?

**Matthew 20:1-2 Jesus said:**

1 “For the kingdom of heaven is like **a landowner** (Jesus) who went out early in the morning to **hire laborers** (You) for **his vineyard** (Isaiah 5, The World).

2 Now when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, **he sent them into his vineyard**.

You are to be an example to the people in your life of what Jesus is like.

- **Your words** are to be Jesus words.
- **Your actions** are to be Jesus actions.
- **Your Love** for people is to be the kind of Love that Jesus has for people.
- **Your Spirit of gentleness and meekness** is to be the same kind that Jesus has.
- **You are to trust**, even as Jesus trusted His life to the Father. Jesus so totally committed Himself to the Father, that he accepted whatever came along.
- **You are to be pure in what you see**, what you think about, what you do with your body, even as Jesus is pure.

You might say, “Well that’s it for me!, I can’t consistently be like Jesus. I don’t have the ability to do these things!”.

**That’s right, you don’t have the ability, but Jesus living in you gives you the ability to do ALL THINGS”.** (If you rely upon Jesus Strength and not your own)

- **But, we cannot speak Jesus words**, if we have not studied what Jesus has said.
- **We cannot do what Jesus had done** unless we have studied what Jesus does.
- **We cannot love people like Jesus does**, unless we have studied how He loves people.

You have to know what the Word of God says...

**Paul led a young man of about 14 years old, called Timothy, to Jesus.** Timothy became one of the first pastors of Jesus church. **Notice what Paul told Timothy...**

**1 Timothy 4:12 ¶**

12 Let no one despise your youth, but **be an example** to the believers **in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity**.

**In the book of Acts, Paul was teaching the Elders at the church**, that they are to also be an example to the believers in their life.

**For 1 1/2 years Paul taught them by his own example**, in the public places and from house to house, **how the servant of the Lord is to conduct themselves in their words and actions**. Then Paul said, “Those things that you saw me saying and doing, you also DO THEM!”

### **Acts 20:18-20**

18 And when they had come to Paul, he said to them: “You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you,  
19 serving the Lord with all humility, with many tears and trials which happened to me by the plotting of the Jews;  
20 how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house...”

**So, here also, again a reminder from the Holy Spirit, if we claim to Love Jesus,**

### **Philippians 4:9**

**The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do**, and the God of peace will be with you. ...

**Notice, “If you do them, you will have Peace...”**

### **Philippians 4:10-21**

10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity.

**Apparently, the believers there in Philippi, had a great desire to support Paul with their finances.**

- **Previously Paul had thanked Epaphroditus** for the financial gift that he carried to Paul from this church at Philippi.
- **Paul never made any demands of the people to support him financially**, Paul trusted the Lord to speak to the people’s hearts.
- **This is the example that we try to follow here are Calvary Chapel**. I have people ask me all of the time why we don’t pass the offering plate, or take up an offering during the service.
- **Yes of course we have financial needs to keep these two churches operating**. Elsie and I ourselves are supported by your offerings to The Lord. But we will never put any demands upon you, we want your giving to come from a willing heart.

### **Philippians 4:10-21**

10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, **but you lacked opportunity**.

**“...You do care, but you lacked opportunity...”**

**Paul traveled quite a bit, and so they didn’t always know where he was at**. So they just saved up their offering, and the next time they heard where Paul was, they sent their gift to Him.

**I really love that!** No one had to tell them to give. They wanted to give to help Paul, because he was teaching people God's Word. They understood that when they supported Paul, they were themselves participating in the entire ministry. Every person that was led to Jesus and was being taught the Word of God, **they were co-laborers with Paul.**

**They would be participating in Paul's reward when Jesus was handing out the crowns.**

**We have such dear and faithful people in Holbrook and Winslow,** that even when they are not here, **they save up their offering and mail it to us!**

**How thankful we are for those of you, who do help us. You make ministry possible!** Because of the way that Jesus uses You to provide the needs of the ministry, I never have to be concerned, I can just go on and teach the Word and oversee the ministry.

### **Philippians 4:11**

11 Not that I speak in regard to need, for **I have learned** in whatever state I am, to be content:

**"I have learned"**, How did Paul learn to be content with whatever the Lord provide for Him?

Let's see.

- **Three times** He was beaten with rods;
- **Once** Paul was stoned;
- **Three times** He was shipwrecked;
- **Paul spent a night and a day** just floating in the ocean.
- **He was mocked, rejected, imprisoned,** and finally Killed for following Jesus.

**How did Paul learn to be content with whatever the Lord provided for Him?**

1. Through the things that He suffered.
2. Through trials.
3. Through suffering Loss.

### **Hebrews 5:7-9**

7 Jesus, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear,

8 **Though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.**

9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,

### **Acts 14:22**

...We **must** through **many tribulations** enter the kingdom of God."

**So what does this mean?**

- **If this morning you are struggling or suffering,** the reason that it is happening is that you are being trained by the Lord.

- **It is through suffering loss, disappointment, failure**, you are learning in exactly the same way that Jesus Learned.
- **Jesus did not overcome temptation or His trials because He was God**. No, Jesus had humbled Himself and set aside His rights to that power, **He had to learn to trust and follow the same way you are learning right now in your own life.**

**“Though He was a Son, yet he learned obedience by the things which He suffered...”**

**Philippians 2:6-8** (Today’s English Version)

6 Jesus always had the nature of God, but he did not think that by force he should try to remain equal with God.

7 Instead of this, of his own free will he gave up all he had, and took the nature of a servant. He became like a human being and appeared in human likeness.

8 He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death — his death on the cross.

You and I, because Jesus loves us so much, He does not exempt us from suffering, because of His love, He includes us in suffering. He does this because it has such an awesome outcome...**We become like Jesus.**

**Some of you this morning are struggling because you have been away from the Lord for awhile.**

- You have been absent from church for a couple of weeks.
- You have not been getting taught God’s Word.
- You have not had the fellowship of other believers.
- You have not received the Love you need.

**As a result, you have felt dry, empty, like something is really missing...The Bible calls this “Leanness of our souls”...**

**Well, even when we experience “Leanness of our souls”**, The Lord can also use this to teach us the importance of being in Church with other believers and learning His Word.

1. **When we need to learn to be in church** and to be taught the Word of God, the Lord may remove us from church for awhile, all of a sudden you have to work on Sundays, or some other circumstance causes you to miss Sundays. It is then that we learn how much we really need it.
2. **When we need to learn to trust more**, the Lord will put us into situations where we will have to trust Him.
3. **When we become full of pride**, The Lord is able to humble us...
  - When we think that we are somehow less of a sinner than someone else...
  - If we become critical of other people, about their walk with the Lord.
  - When we think that we are somehow better able to do something than someone else.
  - When we think we are strong and able to handle things by ourselves.
  - **The Lord may humble us by breaking our heart.**

4. **If we need to learn to rely on the Lord more**, he will put us into a situation where we feel helpless.
5. **If the Lord has been trying to speak to us**, but we have not been listening, the next time we get into trouble, **He may not rescue us**, so we learn to listen to Him.

### **Proverbs 1:20-33**

20 Listen! Wisdom is calling out in the streets and marketplaces,

21 calling loudly at the city gates and wherever people come together:

22 “Foolish people! How long do you want to be foolish? How long will you enjoy making fun of knowledge? Will you never learn?

23 Listen when I reprimand you; I will give you good advice and share my knowledge with you.

24 **I have been calling you**, inviting you to come, **but you would not listen**. You paid no attention to me.

25 **You have ignored all my advice and have not been willing to let me correct you.**

26 **So when you get into trouble, I will laugh at you. I will make fun of you when terror strikes** — TEV

**The Lord delights in Blessing your life, it is His constant earnest desire. But if we have an area of our life that He has been speaking to us about, if we are not listening to Him, He will use whatever means necessary to get our attention.**

So... Paul said...

### **Philippians 4:11**

**I have learned** in whatever state I am, to be content:

**Are you content this morning?**

1. **Even if you are struggling in your life**, are you content, at peace with it, because you know the Lord is still working in your life.
2. **Are you content right now in your life** with whatever the Lord provides for you?
3. **Do you know, have you acknowledged** that your life is in the Lord's hands, if he provides for you, whatever you need, then that's great, but if He doesn't provide anything right now, is that alright also?

### **Philippians 4:12**

12 I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

**Here is a man, who is following the Lord with all of His heart, He is doing everything right, and yet there were times when He was “Abased”.**

“Abased” is to be lowered because you have a need that is not being met.

- **Hey wait a minute Paul**, Man I think you have your theology all mixed up.
- **Don't you know Paul** that you should **always abound**.
- **If you aren't driving a new car** and have a great big home, buddy you must have sin in your life, you must have done something in your life to cause this loss!
- **You just need to name it and claim it...**
- **Just Blab it and Grab it Paul!**

**No!, the reality is, you can be doing everything right, and still suffer loss, disappointment and failure.**

**The secret is**, knowing that this too is the Lord working in your life, and accepting it...

**Then Paul says... “And I know how to Abound”**

**To “Abound”** is to have more than you need, more than you can use...

**But, in every one of life’s situations, Paul said that he had learned to be O.K. with it. Because his life belonged to Jesus, because he was committed, it didn’t matter.**

- Last week Paul said to be anxious about nothing,
- But instead pray and tell the Lord about it, and then
- When you have told him your need, rest in it.
- Wait to see what he will provide for you.
- And then Accept whatever He provides for you, and be at peace with it.

### **Philippians 4:13**

13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

That is a positive statement, “**With Jesus I can do anything**”.

**In John chapter 15, Jesus spoke the negative side of this:**

### **John 15:5 ¶**

5 “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for **without Me you can do nothing.**

Let’s see, “**Without me you can do nothing**”, what does that leave out? **NOTHING!**

Then why so many times do we try to do so many things without Jesus?

**So...”I can do All things through Jesus...But without Jesus, I can’t do anything!”**

- **What is it that needs to be done in your life this morning?** Well, **With Jesus you can do anything.**
- **What have you tried to do lately, that you have failed to do?** Well without Jesus **you can’t do anything.**

**Is that getting through?**

And Jesus said, the secret to this whole concept is “**To stay attached to the Vine**”, that is “**Stay attached to Jesus.**”

**Jesus said “I am the vine, you are the branches”, if you stay attached to Jesus, in fellowship with Him through His Word, prayer and Fellowship with other believers, then **YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING!!!****

- **If you have ever tried to grow something on a vine** like grapes or watermelon or cantaloupe, then you understand that the fruit will only be as good as the Vine is.
- **Unless the fruit is connected to a vine** that has an adequate supply of nutrients, it is not going to produce the right kind of fruit.
- **Jesus said that unless you are connected to Him**, where you are receiving the nutrients of His Word, then your fruit will not be of high quality.

#### **Philippians 4:14**

14 Nevertheless you have done well that you shared in my distress.

15 Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only.

16 For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities.

17 Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account.

**There were many people that Paul taught in the churches that did not support him financially.**

Apparently, this little church in Philippi, did take care of Paul, so he was very thankful to them for their support.

**Then notice what Paul says, “Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account”**

**In other words**, Hey I am very thankful for your offerings that make ministry possible, but **what I really want is that you receive rewards from Jesus because you participated with me..**

**What many people don't understand**, is that when you support someone who is teaching the Word of God, and leading people to Jesus, every soul that is saved for Jesus, you get credit for them also!

- **Jesus has a very interesting way of keeping records** and rewarding people who love Him.
- **When you get to heaven**, there will be people that come up to you and tell you that they made it to heaven because you supported someone that taught them about Jesus.
- **This is what Paul meant by “Fruit that abounds to your account.**

**I have people tell me that they just cannot teach the Word of God to someone**, they say that they just don't know how... but did you know that because you support us here at Calvary Chapel, every person that the Lord allows us to minister to, you get credit for that also.

**As we expand this ministry through Teach The Word Ministries, and people begin to learn about Jesus in Russia or China or Africa, you get credit for leading them to Jesus because you supported us.**

**Someone comes up to you in heaven** and tells you “**Thank you for helping them to find Jesus**”, and you look at them and say, “**But you are from Russia, I never went to Russia**”.

**They tell you** “Yes I know, but I learned about Jesus through the internet, at Teach The Word and Calvary Chapel Winslow and Holbrook, you supported them didn’t you?” you say “Yes, for many years”, “Well then, thank you for helping me find the Lord!!!

See how it works...

**1 Corinthians 3:7**

7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.  
8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

**Jesus will reward you, equally with me, for every person that we bring to a saving knowledge of Jesus.**

**Philippians 4:18**

18 Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God.

**The offering that the Philippian church sent to Paul to support Him**, Paul says was like “A sweet burnt offering rising up to the throne room in heaven”...

**Philippians 4:19**

19 And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

- **Is He your God**, Is Jesus Lord and Savior of Your life?
- **If he is, then whatever your need**, Jesus will supply it, not MAYBE HE WILL SUPPLY IT, HE WILL SUPPLY IT!
- **He supplies all of your needs according to your hard work and resources**, RIGHT?
- **NO!, according to Jesus Resources** and Power!
- **I like that** because JESUS NEVER FAILS, I do all of the time!
- **So if I make Jesus Lord of my life**, and allow Him to guide, Direct and move me wherever he wants, He will take care of all of My needs.

**Last Month Elsie and I lost our Home**, and most everything we had, This month, Bill and Barbara gave us their House full of furniture, and everything else you need in a house, they even left us their food in the Pantry and refrigerator!

**YES TRULY, MY GOD SHALL SUPPLY ALL OF YOUR NEEDS, ACCORDING TO HIS RICHES...**

**You have a check book**, that has a balance larger than you can count, **did you know that?**

20 Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

21 Greeting and Blessing Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren who are with me greet you.

22 All the saints greet you, but **especially those who are of Caesar’s household**.

## **Jesus told His men that someday they would appear before governors and Kings...to tell them about Jesus**

### **Matthew 10:18**

18 You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.

19 But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak;

20 for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.

**When Paul was arrested at the Temple and falsely accused, Because he was a Roman citizen, he had the right to appeal his case to the Emperor Caesar himself.**

**Now imagine that**, Jesus placed a Jewish man, who just happens to be also a Roman citizen, in a situation where he is falsely accused of a crime he didn't commit, the result is that he exercises his right as a Roman citizen to appeal to the Emperor of the most powerful kingdom on the earth. Paul goes before Caesar and tells him about Jesus.

**Would Jesus go to all that trouble just to have an emperor hear about himself... Absolutely...Would Jesus put Paul in Prison for 2 years just so He could have the opportunity to Go before Caesar? ABSOLUTELY!**

**Right now, He may be doing things in your life**, moving you into position, so at just the right time, you will be in a perfect position to tell one particular person about Jesus.

**Well anyway, verse 22, Paul tell the Philippians to greet those in Caesars household.**

- **While Paul was waiting for his opportunity to go before Caesar**, he waited in chains in the care of Caesars guards.
- **You know how Paul was** whenever someone was chained up to him, he looked at it as a perfect opportunity to tell them about Jesus...
- **Apparently at least these 2**, did come to know Jesus through Paul, when he was chained to them.
- **According to the Jewish Historian Josephus**, Two Famous Romans, **Synica, and Luke** were led to Jesus by Paul.
- **Here Paul sends greeting to them**, at the end of this letter to the Philippians...

### **Philippians 4:23**

23 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

**Next Week we Begin the Book of Colossians, and we find out that Jesus is the Eternal One who created everything that exists and holds it all together by His might power.**

**You won't want to miss that one!**

*Jesus we are looking for Your return because we know that You are at hand. And so Lord, bless, we pray, as we seek now to put into practice these things that Paul instructed. That we, Lord, spend more time in prayer, rather than worrying about our circumstances. Help us Lord, to learn to just pray and commit them to You so we can walk away and just experience Your peace, knowing that You are going to take care of it according to Your riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Lord, help us to grow and to become strong in our faith. And as with Paul, help us Lord, to be so committed that in every circumstance that we find ourselves, that we find Your peace and Your contentment, contented in whatever state we're in. In Jesus' name. Amen.*