



## Content in Whatever (Philippians 4:10-23)

### Contentment

“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. Not that I speak in regard to need, for **I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content:** 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. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.**”

Philippians 4:10-13 NKJV

### Philippians 4:10-13

☑ *“Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, **to be content:** 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.**” Philippians 4:11-12 NKJV*

☑ **Godliness with contentment is great gain**

☑ “Let as many bondservants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and His doctrine may not be blasphemed. And those **who have believing masters**, let them not despise them because they are brethren, but **rather serve them because those who are benefited are believers and beloved**. Teach and exhort these things. If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the **doctrine which accords with godliness**, he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, **who suppose that godliness is a means of gain**. From such withdraw yourself. **Now godliness with contentment is great gain**. For **we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out**. And having food and clothing, with these **we shall be content**. But those who **desire to be rich fall into temptation** and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. **For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil**, for which some have strayed

from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.” I Timothy 6:1-10 NKJV

☑ **If I must boast, I will boast in the things which concern my infirmity...**

- ☑ “I say again, let no one think me a fool. If otherwise, at least receive me as a fool, that I also may boast a little. What I speak, I speak not according to the Lord, but as it were, foolishly, in this confidence of boasting. **Seeing that many boast according to the flesh, I also will boast.** For you put up with fools gladly, since you yourselves are wise! For you put up with it if one brings you into bondage, if one devours you, if one takes from you, if one exalts himself, if one strikes you on the face. To our shame I say that we were too weak for that! But in whatever anyone is bold—I speak foolishly—I am bold also. Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? So am I. Are they ministers of Christ?—I speak as a fool—I **am more: in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often. From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the**

deep; in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness— besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches. **Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to stumble, and I do not burn with indignation? If I must boast, I will boast in the things which concern my infirmity.**” II Corinthians 11:16-30  
NKJV

- ☑ **Be content with such things as you have...**
- ☑ “Let brotherly love continue. **Do not forget to entertain strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. **Remember the prisoners as if chained with them**—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also. Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge. Let your conduct be without covetousness; **be content with such things as you have**. For He Himself has said, **“I will never leave you nor forsake you.”** So we may boldly say: “The

LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?" Hebrews 13:1-6 NKJV

☑ **His strength is made perfect in weakness...**

- ☑ “And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, **a thorn in the flesh was given to me**, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, **lest I be exalted above measure**. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, **“My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.”** Therefore most gladly **I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in** infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. **For when I am weak, then I am strong.”** II Corinthians 12:7-10 NKJV

☑ **He who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God...instead seek first the Kingdom...**

- ☑ “Then one from the crowd said to Him, **“Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”** But He said to him, “Man, who made Me a judge or an arbitrator over you?” And He said to them, **“Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.”** Then He spoke a

parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, 'I will do this: I **will pull down my barns and build greater**, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry." ' But God said to him, '**Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?**' "**So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.**" Then He said to His disciples, "Therefore I say to you, **do not worry about your life**, what you will eat; nor about the body, what you will put on. **Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing.** Consider the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap, which have neither storehouse nor barn; and God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds? And which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? If you then are not able to do the least, why are you anxious for the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of

these. If then God so clothes the grass, which today is in the field and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, **O you of little faith?** “And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. For all these things the nations of the world seek after, and your Father knows that you need these things. **But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you.**” Luke 12:13-31 NKJV

☑ **Naked I came from my mother’s womb, And naked shall I return there...**

☑ “Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped. And he said: **“Naked I came from my mother’s womb, And naked shall I return there.** The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; Blessed be the name of the LORD.”” Job 1:20-21 NKJV


☑ *[Famous Verse Alert!] “I can do all things **through Christ who strengthens me.**” Philippians 4:13 NKJV*

☑ **His Strength!**

☑ **AGAIN!** “And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, **for My strength is made perfect in weakness.**”

Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the **power of Christ** may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. **For when I am weak, then I am strong.**" II Corinthians 12:9-10 NKJV

### Access to His Power

 “Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, **may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know** what is the hope of His calling, **what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,** and **what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe,** according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all



things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.” Ephesians 1:15-23 NKJV

**Comprehend this!**

- “For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, **to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man**, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may **be able to comprehend with all the saints** what is the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to **Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us**, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.” Ephesians 3:14-21 NKJV

**Greater Works!**

- ““Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and **greater works than these he will do**, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the

Father may be glorified in the Son. **If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.**" John 14:12-14 NKJV

☑ **Not I!**

- ☑ "I have been crucified with Christ; **it is no longer I who live**, but Christ lives in me; **and the life which I now live** in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." Galatians 2:20 NKJV

### **Live Generously**

"Nevertheless you have done well that you shared in my distress. 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. For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities. **Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account. 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. And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.** Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen. Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren who are with me greet you. All the saints greet you, but especially those who are

of Caesar's household. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen." Philippians 4:14-23 NKJV

### **Philippians 4:14-23**

☑ *"Nevertheless you have done well that you shared in my distress. 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. For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities. **Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account. 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.**" Philippians 4:14-18 NKJV***

#### ☑ **Taking only what is needed!**

☑ "For I consider that I am not at all inferior to the most eminent apostles. Even though I am untrained in speech, yet I am not in knowledge. But we have been thoroughly manifested among you in all things. Did I commit sin in humbling myself that you might be exalted, because **I preached the gospel of God to you free of charge? I robbed other churches, taking wages from them to minister to you. And when I was present with you, and**

**in need, I was a burden to no one**, for what I lacked the brethren who came from Macedonia supplied. **And in everything I kept myself from being burdensome to you, and so I will keep myself.**" II Corinthians 11:5-9 NKJV

☑ **It is more blessed to give than to receive...**

☑ ""So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. **I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel.** Yes, you yourselves know that **these hands have provided for my necessities**, and for those who were with me. I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, **that you must support the weak.** And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, '**It is more blessed to give than to receive.**' "" Acts 20:32-35 NKJV

☑ [Special Note] Where does Jesus say, '**It is more blessed to give than to receive.**'?

1. It turns out that you can find no quote of such in the New Testament, however does that mean Jesus did not say it, maybe even in revelation by the Spirit? I would say we should believe quite the opposite. The New Testament is replete with Scriptures indicating

that there was and will be many more things to say than were recorded in writing.

a) **“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”** John 16:12-13 NKJV

b) **“And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.”** John 21:25 NKJV

2. Space not permitting here, let me at least show you the precedent for such a statements—Paul’s conversions on the road to Damascus:

a) **“So he, trembling and astonished, said, “Lord, what do You want me to do?” Then the Lord said to him, “Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.”** Acts 9:6 NKJV

3. Instruction to Ananias who must receive this man who never met Y'shua in the flesh and who was once the GREATEST persecutor of the Church:
  - a) But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. **For I will show him how many things** he must suffer for My name's sake.'" Acts 9:15-16 NKJV
4. Paul received many teachings by revelation:
  - a) "But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ." Galatians 1:11-12 NKJV
  - b) "But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God." I Corinthians 2:9-10 NKJV
  - c) "If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things

which **I write to you are the commandments of the Lord.**" I Corinthians 14:37 NKJV

☑ **Whatever a man sows, that he will also reap!**

☑ "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for **whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.** For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. **And let us not grow weary while doing good,** for in due season **we shall reap** if we do not lose heart. **Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good** to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith." Galatians 6:7-10 NKJV

☑ ""**While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, Cold and heat, Winter and summer, And day and night Shall not cease.**"" Genesis 8:22 NKJV

☑ "**There is one who scatters, yet increases more;** And there is **one who withholds** more than is right, But it **leads to poverty.** The generous soul will be made rich, And he who waters will also be watered himself." Proverbs 11:24-25 NKJV

☑ **Running over!**

☑ "Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into

your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.” Luke 6:38 NKJV

☑ **Sow sparingly—reap sparingly; Sow bountifully—Reap bountifully—THE WITNESS OF GIVING!**

- ☑ “But this I say: **He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.** So let each one **give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.** And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, **always having all sufficiency in all things,** may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written: “He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever.” **Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness,** while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God. **For the administration of this service not only supplies the needs of the saints, but also is abounding through many thanksgivings to God, while, through the proof of this ministry, they glorify God for the obedience of your confession to the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal sharing with them**



and all men, and by their prayer for you, who long for you because of the exceeding grace of God in you.

Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!" II

Corinthians 9:6-15 NKJV

☑ **What is a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God? Philippians 4:18**

- ☑ "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that **you present your bodies a living sacrifice**, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove **what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.**" Romans 12:1-2 NKJV

- ☑ *[Famous Verse Alert!] "And my God **shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.**" Philippians 4:19 NKJV*

☑ **We have all things we need to live a godly life!**

- ☑ "Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us **all things that pertain to life and godliness**, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly

great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." II Peter 1:2-4 NKJV

☑ **No good thing withheld from the righteous!**

☑ "For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly." Psalms 84:11 NKJV

☑ **If He would give us the life of His Son...**

☑ "What then shall we say to these things? **If God is for us, who can be against us?** He **who did not spare His own Son**, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also **freely give us all things?**" Romans 8:31-32 NKJV

☑ *[Famous Verse Alert] "And we know that **all things work together for good** to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."* Romans 8:28

☑ **His thoughts toward us!**

☑ "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, **to give you a future and a hope.**" Jeremiah 29:11 NKJV

☑ **Live Generously—we have come full circle about giving and the greatest payoff of all...**

☑ ““Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, ‘In what way have we robbed You?’ **In tithes and offerings.** You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation. **Bring all the tithes into the storehouse,** That there may be food in My house, **And try Me now in this,”** Says the LORD of hosts, **“If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.** “And I will **rebuke the devourer** for your sakes, So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,” Says the LORD of hosts; “And all nations will call you blessed, For you will be a delightful land,” Says the LORD of hosts.” Malachi 3:8-12 NKJV

☑ **Seed must die to produce fruit:** “But Jesus answered them, saying, “The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.** If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will

be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor." John 12:23-26 NKJV

☑ **You are the seed that dies to produce fruit:** "I have been crucified with Christ; **it is no longer I who live**, but Christ lives in me; **and the life which I now live** in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." Galatians 2:20 NKJV

☑ **We saw Luke's version of this earlier, but it is appropriate again here—your heavenly Father knows that you need:**

☑ "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. **For your heavenly Father knows that you need** all these things. But **seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness**, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." Matthew 6:31-34 NKJV

### **NEXT WEEK**

Thrown into the Sea (Jonah 1)