

PAUL LEARNED TO ACCEPT THE THINGS HE COULD NOT CHANGE HE LEARNED CONTENTMENT HE HAD GROWN PAST BEING CONTROLLED BY HIS CIRCUMSTANCES PEOPLE THINGS AND WORRY

PAUL WAS NOT LIKE A THERMOMETER THAT GOES UP AND DOWN WHEN THE TEMPERATURE CHANGES HE WAS LIKE A THERMOSTAT IN CONTROL OF THE TEMPERATURE

PAUL HAD A SECURE MIND HE KNEW WHO WAS IN CONTROL PAUL KNEW WHAT IT MEANT TO BE LEAD BY THE SPIRIT

PAUL HAD LEARNED TO LIVE BY FAITH IN THE SON OF GOD WHO LOVED HIM AND GAVE HIS LIFE FOR HIM GAL 2:20

PAUL'S RESOURCE WENT BEYOND WHAT COULD BE SEEN IN VERSE 12 HE SAYS I KNOW HE HAD LEARNED THE SECRET OF INNER PEACE AND IT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH HIS CIRCUMSTANCES

PAUL BELIEVED ROMANS 8:28 AND WE KNOW THAT GOD CAUSES ALL THINGS TO WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD TO THOSE WHO LOVE GOD TO THOSE WHO ARE CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE HE BELIEVED IN THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD HE KNEW IT WAS THE LORD IN VERSE 10 THAT HAD ALLOWED HIS CIRCUMSTANCES AND PROVIDED FOR HIS NEEDS

IN VERSE 11 HE SAYS NOT THAT I SPEAK FROM WANT HE WAS NOT FOCUSES ON HIMSELF BUT ON THE PHILIPPIANS AND THEIR WILLINGNESS TO SERVE TAKING THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE USED BY GOD FOR HIS GLORY AND THEIR JOY EXPERIENCING THE JOY OF THE LORD WHICH WAS PLEASING HIS FATHER VERSE 18 AN EXPECTABLE SACRIFICE

IN VERSE 12 PAUL SAYS NEITHER POVERTY NOR PROSPERITY NEITHER BEING FILLED OR GOING HUNGRY HAVING AN ABUNDANCE OR SUFFERING A NEED WAS THE SECRET OF HIS STRENGTH THE POWER TO OVERCOME WORRY IN HIS LIFE WAS HIS SECURITY IN THE LORD AND THE POWER OF GOD WAS EVIDENT IN HIS LIFE

PAUL KNEW HE WAS NOT A VICTIM OF CIRCUMSTANCES NOR DID HE LIVE LIKE A VICTIM HE WAS A VICTOR AND THE SECRET OF HIS STRENGTH WAS NOT HIS HAIR LIKE SAMPSON IT WAS JESUS CHRIST ON THE INSIDE

V13 I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENS ME 2COR 13:5 TEST YOURSELF TO SEE IF YOU ARE IN THE FAITH THE QUESTION IS DOES JESUS CHRIST LIVE IN YOU

OUR STRENGTH IS NOT OUR OWN IT IS THE LORD'S AND HIS STRENGTH IS RELEASED IN US AND THROUGH US WHEN WE TRUST IN HIM BY FAITH HEB 11:6

THE GREATEST TREASURE YOU COULD EVER RECEIVE IS CHRIST IN YOU YOUR HOPE NOT ONLY IN THIS LIFE BUT ALSO IN THE ONE TO COME THE POWER OF NEW LIFE IN YOU BEING RENEWED FROM THE INSIDE OUT

V19 PAUL TELLS THE PHILIPPIANS MY GOD WILL SUPPLY ALL YOUR NEEDS ACCORDING TO HIS RICHES IN GLORY IN CHRIST

PAUL WAS CONFIDENT THAT THEIR KINDNESS SHOWN TOWARD HIM WOULD NOT GO UNREWARDED BY HIS GOD

THEY HAD BEEN USED BY GOD AS A CHANNEL OF BLESSING TO PAUL IN VERSES 14-16 IN THE MATTER OF GIVING AND RECEIVING SUPPORTING HIM AS HE PREACHED THE GOSPEL TO THEM AND OTHERS

V20 OUR GOD AND FATHER PAUL'S DESIRE WAS THE GLORY OF GOD ABOVE ALL ELSE GOD HAD USED BOTH PAUL AND THE PHILIPPIANS FOR HIS GLORY THEY WERE HIS VESSELS OF GRACE AND MERCY GROWING IN THEIR LOVE FOR GOD AND EACH OTHER LEARNING TO RELY ON HIS STRENGTH TO ACCOMPLISH HIS WILL

ARE YOU GROWING IN CONTENTMENT AS YOU RELY ON HIS STRENGTH IN EVERY CIRCUMSTANCE ARE YOU SECURE IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO JESUS CHRIST