

Introduction

Peace on the Outside (Phil 4:1-5)

Peace on the Inside (Phil 4:6-9)

Contentment (Phil 4:11-13)

I. The Opportunity of Giving (vv. 10-13)

A. Revived thinking (v. 10) – Phil 2:25-30

1. “I rejoiced in the Lord greatly” (Matt 2:10, Luke 2:10; 24:52)
2. Paul’s expression of joy – the lack of opportunity
 - a) Perhaps the timing of Paul’s need and their ability to give a gift hadn’t been aligned
 - b) Perhaps they had no one like Epaphroditus with which to send a gift
 - c) Perhaps Paul may have even requested his churches to not send him money due to false accusations (1 Cor 9:3-18; 2 Cor 12:13-18; 1 Thess 2:9; 2 Thess 3:7-10)

B. Righteous accepting (vv. 11-13)

1. Paul was a contented receiver (vv. 11-12)
2. Paul was trusting and focused on Christ (v. 13)

II. The Fellowship of Giving (vv. 14-16)

A. Fellowship in affliction (v. 14) – cf. Phil 1:12-13

1. How did they fellowship in his affliction? With a tangible gift.
2. The heart of giving (2 Cor 9:6-7) – Valuable resources at our disposal: **time, finances, intellect, energy, relationships** (it’s not just about money, it’s about our hearts).
 - a) A generous heart – An agrarian (farming) principle (Prov 11:24-25) which applies to all the areas of our resources.
 - b) A purposeful heart
 - c) A cheerful heart (Psalm 8) – Theological basis for giving cheerfully
 - (1) Understanding God’s ownership (sovereignty) – Psalm 50:7-15; Isa 45:6-10; Rom 8:28; Eph 1:11; Col 1:16-17
 - (2) Understanding man’s stewardship (responsibility) – Worship, what is it?
 - (a) Worship must involve **reverent service** as a means of demonstrating gratitude (Heb 12:28)
 - (b) Worship must involve **complete humility** (Luke 18:9-14)
 - (c) Worship must be **from the heart** and firmly **grounded in truth** (Isa 29:13; John 4:24)
 - (d) Worship must be **all about God** (John 14:15; 1 Cor 10:31; 2 Cor 5:9)

Conclusion