

CONTENTMENT: STRENGTHEN TO SERVE

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Tsunami Campus Nite

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Read Philippians 4:10-13

ILL – Alexander Holyfield fighting for the Heavy weight boxing title wearing boxing shorts that say Phil. 4:13, Tim Tebow wearing Phil. 4:13

Introduction to concern, need and contentment

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.

Understanding need and Contentment

1) for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content.

- I know how to be brought low,
- I know how to abound.

Paul isn't waiting for the Philippians to meet his need to be content.

What are you waiting for to change, develop, or to happen for you to be content?

2) In any and every circumstance,

- I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger,
- I have learned the secret of facing abundance and need.

SECRET: I can *do all things* through **him who strengthens me.**

- People emphasize the wrong part of this passage... it is Him not you doing anything.
- *Tim Tebow – "A lot of people know Philippians 4:13 – 'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me' – but a lot of people don't interpret that verse the right way, Tebow says. Most people think it means I can do anything ... on the football field, or I can make a lot of money. But that's not exactly what it's talking about there. It's [saying] I can be content with anything. When you're a Christian, you can [be content] because God has put you where you are. That's really a different view... I know that I have Christ in me, so I can do whatever He wants me to do, and that's how I approach everything."*
- God gives me everything I need to obey and serve him in every way commanded.
- It is God we are to look to for life, joy, importance, value, purpose,
- Not looking for contentment in friends, status, wealth, position, education, achievement.
 - All of those situations change...every change will make you discontent
 - All else will fall and fail you... all! Do you believe that or are those
- We must work hard to learn to be strengthened by God in all circumstances rather than looking to man or the world to be our hope.

Conclusion

- Gospel – What is your hope in tonight? What is it that will make you content? How long can that object sustain you?
 - Can it pass two tests—1. The 100 million year test 2. The sin test
- Jesus is where true deep, lasting, and real change occurs. Believe and repent.