**There is Good from the Bad- Learn Contentment**

**Philippians 4:11-13**

**11**Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. **12**I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. **13**I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

**FOCAL TRUTH:** Christians must learn to live content in every circumstance of life.

Contentment vs. Discontentment; are you living by faith or living dangerously?

**OBSERVATIONS:**

1. **Danger of Discontentment.** (Psalm 106:7) *Our fathers in Egypt did not understand Your wonders; They did not remember Your abundant kindnesses, But rebelled by the sea, at the Red Sea.*
* Don’t forget God’s kindness to us, don’t focus on selfish desires (Psalm 106: 13-14) ***13****They quickly forgot His works;
They did not wait for His counsel,****14****But craved intensely in the wilderness,
And tempted God in the desert.*
* Don’t complain (Psalm 106:25) *But grumbled in their tents;
They did not listen to the voice of the Lord.*
1. **The Qualities of Contentment.** (Philippians 4:11)
* Contentment is silent under affliction (Psalm 39:9)
* Contentment is cheerful under affliction (2 Corinthians 12:10)
* Contentment is thankful under affliction (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
* Contentment is a calm mind (Romans 8:6)

*Learn to be content in all things. This is the ability to be self-independent of your circumstances.*

*Example: Noah in the Ark – he trusted God through the storms, rains, and flood because God had him safe in the Ark. The flood was trying times but God offered provision and security.*

1. **Believers must learn how to live in contentment.** (Philippians 4:11-12)
* Living in contentment is living by FAITH! The secret is contentment when one either has a lot or a little…God provides what we need at the right time.

***ASK YOURSELF:*** *What am I learning about trusting God in these days?*

1. **The power to strengthen contentment** (Philippians 4:13) (Isaiah 40:31)
* You can do all things because Jesus is giving you strength. As a child of God you can face uncertain days and trials because the power of Jesus Christ is living in you.

**DAILY USE:**

1. In these days learn to live by faith in contentment; the Lord is enough!
2. In these days rely on the Holy Spirit to give you contentment.
3. In these days pray the Prayer of Contentment (Proverbs 30:8) ***Keep deception and lies far from me,
Give me neither poverty nor riches;
Feed me with the food that is my portion…***