

Contentment through Prayer

By
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Have You Learned Contentment?

- ▶ Are you getting more and more things and finding that satisfaction is getting less and less?
- ▶ Are you looking to get out of a dull marriage?
- ▶ Are you just restless, unhappy and bored?
- ▶ Are drugs, alcohol more a temptation than before?



Paul Learned Contentment

- ▶ By realizing that the Lord is at Hand (4:5)
 - ▶ The Greek word *engus* means that the Lord is near, ready to help.



Example of One Who Forgot

- ▶ When King David was running from Saul, he went to Gath where Achish was king...
(1 Sam. 21:10-15)
 - ▶ Afraid of Achish and pretends to be mad
(1 Sam. 21:10-15)
 - ▶ He then fled to a cave of Adullam where he wrote
Psa. 57:1-3; 7



Example of One Who Remembered

- ▶ Habakkuk is an example of just the opposite (Hab 1:2-4)
 - ▶ Like David, he faced a crisis, but unlike David, he maintained his trust.
 - ▶ In 1:2-4, he asks God about His apparent indifference to Judah's sin...
 - ▶ God says that things are going to get worse (1:5-11)
 - ▶ Habakkuk then reminds himself of God's justice, etc. (1:12-13)
 - ▶ By the end of the prophecy, he could sing of God's glorious nature and power (3:17-19)



Don't Worry - Pray

- ▶ Uses three synonyms: prayer, supplications and thanksgiving
- ▶ With thanksgiving for His great:
 - ▶ Promise (1 Cor. 10:13)
 - ▶ Power
 - 1 Pet. 1:4 “Kept by the power of God...” Jesus: “no one is able to pluck us out of His hand” (Jno. 10:29)
 - ▶ Mercy (Eph. 2:8)
 - ▶ Hope (Rom. 8:18-25)
- ▶ Once we learn, God will give us peace (4:7)
 - ▶ Military term used of soldiers on guard duty



Paul Learned Contentment

- ▶ By thinking right (4:8)
 - ▶ The Bible leaves no doubt that our lives are the products of our thoughts (Prov. 23:7; Mk. 7:20-23)

