



DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

Prison or Pandemic vs Promise & Provision ... by Gareth

READ: PHILIPPIANS 4:19

- **B**ut my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:19) The Philippians had done their part and now God would bless their finances. They had seen to it that Paul's needs were met, he was full. In return, God would meet their needs. They would also be full.
- Notice several thoughts connected to this verse.
Firstly, it was Personal - My God. Such promises can be claimed by no one other than His own children, because we have been bought by Him we are His responsibility. He will care for us. Think about it Christian! He is OUR GOD!
- Adopted into His kingdom *Roman's 8 vs 14 & 15*
- Paul tells the Philippians that God's provision is a guarantee for them. Paul had a personal relationship with God. Can you say as Paul said, "My God!" He is the personal God to all who trusts in His Son the Lord Jesus Christ.
- **Secondly**, it was Positive—shall supply. Take notice here that it does not say, "might supply," or "could supply," but "**shall supply**." Paul knew that the promises of God were good. We can count on the promises of God.
- Those Philippians who had been liberal in their giving to Paul could be sure that God would be a liberal giver to them. Because of the source of supply being God, the supply is certain. God is not only the giver of what is deserved, he also gives those things that are undeserved.
- Just as it is impossible to empty the ocean with a water bucket, it is impossible for us to exhaust all of God's resources. Our needs will never be greater than his resources.
- The word "supply" comes from the same Greek word translated "full" in verse eighteen. This word (*pleroo*) means to fill to the full. It means to furnish or supply liberally, to fill to the top, so that nothing shall be wanting. It means to make complete in every sense. God promises to fill every need in the life of those who are liberal in their giving.
- **Thirdly** - The Provision "all your needs". Paul's prayer that God may fulfill all their needs. Paul's prayer gives encouragement and expectation to the readers.
- As they met all of Paul's needs (v. 16), so God will meet all their needs.
- But Paul does not see this gift as simply coming from Philippi. He sees it as the supply of his need from heaven. Paul's trust was in the Lord. There is an interesting contrast between *Philippians 4:18* and *19*. We might state it this way if we were to paraphrase Paul: "You met my need, and God is going to meet your need. You met one need that I have, but my God will meet all of your needs. You gave out of your poverty, but God will supply your needs out of His riches in glory!"



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Week 10

- God has not promised to supply all our “greeds” When the child of God is in the will of God, serving for the glory of God, then he will have every need met.
- As we know Paul is in prison, He is facing the death penalty if convicted. The Philippians had heard about his plight, and they had heard how Paul was standing fast and continuing to preach the gospel to everyone who visited him. The church was stirred to do two things: to take up a love offering and to send a man, Epaphroditus, to minister to Paul's needs. V18
- Paul had learned to be content v11.
- True contentment is found in Jesus Christ. To have contentment in the Lord requires three decisions about the events and possessions of our lives:
- We Must Direct— We must direct our focus on what God has already allowed us to have. This involves counting our blessings and being thankful to the Lord for each and all His gifts.
 - ... *money can buy a Bed, but money can't buy Rest...*
 - ... *money can buy Drugs, but money can't buy Peace...*
 - ... *money can buy Luxury, but money can't buy Comfort...*
- There is so much we think we need but really could do without. Contentment teaches us to do without. A person who depends on material things for peace, assurance, happiness, or satisfaction will find he will never be satisfied.
- Contentment does not arrive by chance. It is not inherited, purchased or a product of discipline. It is learned as Paul stated.
- God saw who sacrificially gave to support Paul and He deposited a reward to their account (Phil. 4:17). This was what Paul desired in giving: not a gift for himself, but a reward for the giver. Paul knew that God saw and rewarded the believers who gave sacrificially; therefore, Paul desired believers to give and to give sacrificially. Paul focused on what their good works on his behalf were benefiting them in heaven. The NKJV translates this phrase, "the fruit that abounds to your account"
- When we give to those in need, we benefit as well as the receiver, as we grow in the grace of giving (2 Corinthians 8:6-7; 9:14). Paul appreciated the Philippians' spirit of love and devotion more than their gifts. God would remember their gifts to Paul.
- When we give to God's servants for the work of God, we also share in the reward of the workers. Since they had given of their money and supported him in his work, the Philippians themselves were partakers in the fruit and reward of his ministry.
- Fourthly, it was Plentiful - according to his riches in glory. That settles the issue right there. Our needs will be met according to his riches in glory. The bank of Heaven is still full and it is from His riches that He will supply us. We will be all right.
- Then Paul hastens to assure them that they have not impoverished themselves in giving so liberally to the cause of the gospel. The word “supply” is the translation of the same Greek word translated:

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"I am full" The measure of the supply which God the Father has is determined by His wealth in glory, which wealth in glory is in Christ Jesus, an infinite supply.

There is the great resource: "*according to His riches in glory*" Take all the riches and wealth, glory and majesty of heaven - it is all available to meet the needs of God's dear people. There is no limit - not even a fraction - to the great resources at God's disposal. God can provide for any need. God's resources are inexhaustible! They are limitless. He owns the cattle on a thousand hills. *Psalm 50 vs 10-12*

His resources are more than sufficient and impossible to comprehend. Paul tells the church that God shall supply all their need according to His riches in glory. God's supply will never run low.

God has the supply to meet all His children's needs for all time. Elijah and cruise of oil - *1 King 17 v 16*

Fifthly, it was Powerful—by Christ Jesus. Those things which we do not have the power to perform, He will do. This is the promise of Almighty God. Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee. (*Jeremiah 32:17*)

Hudson Taylor the missionary who went to China in who said, "When God's work is done in God's way for God's glory, it will not lack God's supply." What a blessed truth! You cannot out give God. It is by the Lord Jesus that our needs are met. He is the Source that supplies all our needs.

We can trust the Lord not only with our future, but with our finances!

F. B Meyer said, "*Lend your boat for a whole afternoon to Christ that it may be His floating pulpit, and He will return it to you full with fish. Place your upper room at His disposal for a single meal, and He will fill it and the whole house with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Place in His hands your barley loaves and fish, and He will not only satisfy your hunger, but add twelve baskets full of leftovers. The Philippians sent three or four presents to a suffering and much needing servant of God, and from that moment... every need of*