



## THE SUFFICIENCY OF CHRIST AND FELLOWSHIP OF HIS BODY

*Philippians 4:10-23*

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**Good morning Church!** In these verses, Paul concludes his letter by sincerely giving thanks for the Church in 3 things: their concern, partnership, and their fellowship. This passage is not about having financial abundance. Some teach a prosperity gospel that says God will bless us financially if we are faithful. However, God's Word teaches the opposite: that the believer will endure suffering but can be content in Christ. Last week, we read about focusing on a heavenly mindset that can only come by understanding heavenly realities that ...

- What is being PROCLAIMED in God's WORD is what should be LIVED OUT by God's PEOPLE.

### **Philippians 4:10-23**

*"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. **11** Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content.*

***12** I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. **13** I can do all things through him who strengthens me. **14** Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. **15** And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. **16** Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. **17** Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. **18** I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. **19** And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. **20** To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen. **21** Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers who are with me greet you. **22** All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household. **23** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.*

### **1. The Church Expresses CONCERN For Paul's WELLBEING. (v 10-13)**

- True CONTENT can be found in CHRIST alone.
- BELIEVERS can faithfully endure PROBLEMS, since CHRIST faithfully endured the CROSS.

## 2. The Church Provides PARTNERSHIP For Paul's MISSION WORK. (v 14-19)

- The CHURCH holds the rope for the MISSIONARY who spreads the good news among the unreached. [IMB Article, 2017]

### **IMB Article, 2017**

*"Before leaving for India, William Carey famously told Andrew Fuller, "I will go down into the pit, if you will hold the ropes." Fuller held the ropes by serving as president of the Baptist Mission Society from its founding until his death in 1814. He traveled all over the British Isles, raising funds and preaching missions-related sermons. The missionaries in India and other early fields could concentrate on their ministry in the field because they knew Fuller was advocating for them back home."*

- The Church's generous SUPPORT was an act of WORSHIP pleasing to God.

## 3. The Church Shares in the FELLOWSHIP of Paul's FRUITFUL LABOR (v 20-23)

- UNITY among local churches GROWS when we SUFFER for Christ, SERVE His Mission, and PRAISE the Lord

### **Salvation through Jesus Christ**

*The single most important decision a person could ever make in their lifetime is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says, "all have sinned and fall short of God's glory" and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death". Yet through God's love, only "Christ gives us eternal life by grace through faith"... it is a gift of God. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead YOU WILL BE SAVED. **The Bible says to REPENT of your sins. BELIEVE in Jesus receiving His forgiveness.** Then, identify with Christ and start living a new life in obedience to God by being BAPTIZED.*