

GSM

Philippians 4:18-23

I. Philippians 4:18

A. **I have all-** Gr. **apecho-** *This word means to receive back.* Paul had sown seed and now it has come back to him in full when he needed it.

B. **and abound-** Not only did Paul receive back what he sowed, but he got an abundant harvest beyond that! Paul gave, and it was given back to him good measure, pressed down, and shaken together.

C. **I am full-** pleroo- perf. tense- I have been made full and I am now in the state of fullness. In Paul's mind and heart he believed he was full already before the finances showed up. The finances were just a manifestation of Paul's faith.

D. **having received-** Paul's receiving was a manifestation of fullness he received by faith.

1. **Eph. 1:3**

2. **2 Peter 1:3**

3. **1 Cor. 3:21-22**

E. **sweet smelling aroma, acceptable and well pleasing to God.**

1. God receives are giving in faith and love as a sacrifice that is sweet smelling.

2. Our giving should not be primarily given to men or a ministry, but unto God. It should be given as a representation of Jesus Christ, God's gift to us and out of the fact that we have been blessed with all through Jesus. When we give our finances to God it becomes a sacrifice that is sweet smelling.

3. **1 Peter 2:5-** We offer up spiritual sacrifices

4. **Eph. 5:1-** walking in love is seen as a sweet smelling aroma. One of the ways in which we love God and others is by giving.

5. **Romans 12:1-** Giving our bodies or natural lives to God as a living sacrifice to God is an acceptable sacrifice that is well pleasing to Him. Giving is one of the chief ways we offer ourselves as a living sacrifice. Often nothing is closer to us than our money.

6. **Hebrews 13:14-** worship is a spiritual sacrifice. We worship God when we give in faith and in love

7. **Hebrews 13:15**- Giving wraps up all sacrifices into one! Giving again is an acceptable sacrifice. God is the God of resurrection. When we give a sacrifice He will give back in resurrection or harvest.

II. **Philippians 4:19**

A. **and my God shall supply**

1. Paul calls God, His God. He has proven His God over and over. He has learned from experience what His God can and will do. He knows that His God will supply all their need because he knows you cannot out give God. The same God that just gave him a harvest from his giving will give them a harvest.

2. **supply**- Gr. **pleroo**- *fill up to the top*

B. **all your need**- we need more than finances! God shall supply all our need. When we give to God in faith [living sacrifice] and in love [walk in love] then God will supply all our need.

C. **according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus**

1. You will receive from the riches of grace that has already been given to you in Christ- **Eph. 1:3**

2. We should give from the revelation we have already been made rich and have already been blessed. Rich and blessed people should be liberal. We should give in faith that God has supplied our need in Christ and give in love because of what God has done for us we want to see happen in others. When we do this our faith and love draw upon what belongs to us in the spiritual and it is released to us in abundance.

III. **Philippians 4:20**

1. This is the purpose for prosperity, that God would receive all the glory. Many people when they give tend to take some of the glory for giving. What we gave came from God. We have nothing that we have not first received. **1 Cor. 4:7**

IV. **Philippians 4:21**

1. **Salute**- lit. *embrace*- this is the Christian "holy" hug!

2. **every saint in Christ Jesus**- Sometimes I wish Paul said to embrace the saints you like, because there are some saints we would rather not embrace. However, we must never lose sight of the cross in

which we are all made recipients of grace. We all are equally unworthy in ourselves of acceptance. God freely gave it to us. We must not withhold it from others.

a. Rom 14:1-4

3. **the brethren with me salute you**- The Philippians were accepted by those on Paul's team, even though he could not fully trust any of them to minister with pure motives except Timothy.

V. **Philippians 4:22**

A. **All the saints salute you**- *all the saints embrace you.*

a. One of the things the Lord has taught me to do is to take God at His word that His love is in every Christian's spirit. We love everyone in the core of our being. Sometimes our soul gets out of line with that. We all experience emotions that are contrary to love towards certain Christians. However, we must keep in mind that we love them even if we don't feel it. God's love is not always an emotion! It is spiritual fact so it must be believed and acted upon.

b. Not only do we love everyone, but if they are a Christian, then those who don't seem to like us, really love us in the core of their being. We need to consider that those who seem not to like, really do love us in the deepest part of their heart. This will change the way you act towards them. Sometimes we think someone does not like us and we will start to act differently towards them. We shun them or ignore them. This will cause them to act towards you in the same manner. Sometimes they never disliked you until you started acting bad towards them! If you choose to believe that they love you, then you will start treating them in grace and in kindness which will affect them, even if they for some reason do not like you. You are sowing to the spirit and in faith. This will reap a harvest back! **Gal. 6:8**

B. **especially those in Cesaer's household**- These are the one's Paul had gotten saved in prison. They had never met the Philippians! However, they loved them anyway. A Christian loves even other Christians they have never met. In heaven we will love everyone from all time periods even if we never met them before because of the love in the new creation!

VI. **Philippians 4:23**

A. **The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all**

1. This is not just some nice ending. This is the power of Christianity- the grace of God. The grace of God is the ability of God to carry out all that has been written here. We receive grace by faith and our union with Christ.

2. Paul letter begins with grace and ends with grace. We started our relationship with God by grace, we live by grace, and we finish in grace.

B. **Amen-** so be it. We need to say amen to the grace of God!