

Good Enough

Phil 4:11-13

Dr. Pierre Cannings

I. Wants v.11 Hebrews 13:5

- a. Character away from the love of money Hebrews 13:5
- b. Wanting get rich leads to temptation 1 Timothy 6:9-10
 - i. Love of money is root of all evil

II. Contentment v.12 1 Timothy 6:6-8

- a. Contentment
 - i. Self Sufficient- The self-sufficiency of the Christian is relative: an independence of the world through dependence upon God
 - 1. The stoics thought it to self sufficient from the world and independent
 - ii. Internal satisfaction which does not demand changes in external circumstances
 - iii. is sufficient'. *autarkeia* denotes freedom from reliance upon others, whether other persons or other things; hence the satisfaction of one's needs (2 Cor. 9:8) or the control of one's desires (1 Tim. 6:6, 8).
- b. Brought Nothing in the World, nothing out 1 Timothy 6:7
- c. Your needs are food and covering
- d. Your Needs are taken care of by God 6:7

III. God's Provisions v.13 Hebrews 13:5

- e. It is not a passive acceptance of the *status quo*, but the positive assurance that God has supplied one's needs, and the consequent release from unnecessary desire. The Christian can be 'self-contained' because he has been satisfied by the grace of God (2 Cor. 12:9).
 - i. You can do all things through God
 - 1. "I have the power to face all such situations in union with the One who continually infuses me with strength."
 - 2. 'to have power, be competent, be able', signifies that Paul can handle or cope with all these things;⁸⁴ in other words, he is content living in the midst of these strikingly different circumstances.
- f. God has never forsaken you Hebrews 13:5

- i. purpose of the parables for outsiders. This link assimilates the disciples to such outsiders. Here, in v. 18^{1*}, an analogous passage is cited, Jer 5:21^{2*}, in which the Lord rebukes the people, the household of Jacob, for being “senseless,” literally, “without heart.”³² They are accused of having eyes but not seeing; of having ears but not hearing. Jeremiah may imply here that the prophecy of Isa
- b. Jesus recounts his miracle of feeding 4000 and 5000
 - i. The disciples had a full remembrance of the miracles and the details

^{1*} 18 Do you have eyes, and fail to see? Do you have ears, and fail to hear? And do you not remember?

Mk 8:18 (NRSV)

^{2*} 21 Hear this, O foolish and senseless people,
 who have eyes, but do not see,
 who have ears, but do not hear.

Je 5:21 (NRSV)

³² ἀκάρδιος in the LXX; on the Hebrew text and its interpretation, see Holladay, *Jeremiah*, 1:195–96.