

Philippians 4b

Verse 10 We know from other letters that some churches supported Paul's ministry financially. This may have been support in the form of financing Epaphroditus to come and supply Paul's needs from day to day while in prison, as well as a financial gift (see 18). 2Cor 11:9 Gal 6:6

Verse 11,12 He doesn't mention it because of any lack, and in fact has learned to get by contentedly in all situations. He knows how to be content with our without daily needs. What do you think is the secret He learned? Mt 6:31-34

Verse 13 Now you have it in context. And I think this is a statement of the secret. He relies on the strength of Christ and not his own. He always has Christ and so always has the basic necessity. Jn 15:4,5

Verse 14 It is a Christ-like thing to share in our brother's and sister's needs.

Verse 15,16 They had been loyal supporters in the past and were continuing their faithfulness. For some time they had been the sole supporters of Paul's ministry. That means they share in his reward. Mt 10:40,41

Verse 17 Paul wasn't greedy for gain, but wanted them to be co-laborers with Him. He knew their assistance was earning heavenly dividends. 1Thes 2:5

Verse 18 What came by way of Epaphroditus was more than enough. Interesting he says full payment, for he is in the Lord's work and they are caring for the Lord's money. He does not demand it, but he knows God is fair and pays everyone according to his labor. The gifts to Paul were a fragrant offering that pleased God. It must have been sacrificial. Have you given any fragrant offerings lately? Ps 84:11

Verse 19,20 Just like verse 13 this verse is so often taken out of context. What is the context here? Are the needs physical, spiritual, both? And where is the source of the needs being met? Prov 3:9,10

Verses 21-23 Part of Caesar's palace has been converted. Yeehah! No wonder Paul was imprisoned. It is like these last three verses were tacked on. I pray the grace of Christ is with your spirit and mine! That results in a special life - like His.