

**Title: Our Sufficiency in Christ** - (New Years Day 1/1/17)

**Text: (Phil 4:4-8)**

**Ch 1 Paul Speaks of Suffering for Christ:**

**Christ is Our Life**

Paul's Testimony as a Pastor, Prisoner, & Joy through the conflict.

**Ch 2 Paul Speaks of Serving Christ:**

**Christ is Our Pattern**

Paul's testimony of having the Mind of Christ.

What it's like to have the Mind of Christ.

What it's like to have the Mind of Christ working through you

**Ch 3 Paul Speaks of Seeking Christ:**

**Christ is Our Goal**

**Ch 4 Christ is Our Sufficiency:** (Vs 4:1-19)

**Our Standing in Christ**

**The Reality of our Sufficiency in Christ:** (Vs 1-4)

*4 Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.*

*(1 Thes 5:16) Rejoice Ever More*

This is a direct manifestation of our faith.

*Illus: Is God REAL?*

Based on your attitude over the last 7 days, does your family believe that God is REAL?

**This is easy when things are going the way WE want them:**

But when they are going in a direction other than what I want.

It takes faith: (Heb 11:6)

*(2 Cor 5:7) (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)*

**We have to DECIDE now: IS GOD REAL?**

*Is God Able to take care of ME?*

*(2 Tim 1:12) For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.*

*Can God make this turn out for my GOOD:* (Rom 8:28)

**IS GOD A LIAR?** (Rom 8:31) ***THEN REJOICE!***

*(2 Cor 13:5) Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?*

**What is Paul Saying??????**

***Prove IT! Put your money where your mouth is & Rejoice!***

*(Rom 8:35) Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? **Do You Believe that? Rejoice!***

*(Rom 8:37) Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.*

***Do You Believe that? Put your Money where your mouth is! PROVE IT WITH YOUR MOUTH! Rejoice!***

*Illus: Jen Vaprezan Memorial:*

*How Great is Our God! - You're a Good, Good Father!*

*(Rom 8:38-39) For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

***Do You Believe that? Put your Money where your mouth is!  
PROVE IT WITH YOUR MOUTH! Rejoice!***  
(Vs 4) ***Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.***

**This is the Reality of our Sufficiency in Christ:**  
JESUS IS ALL I NEED! Jesus is ENOUGH!  
**CHRIST IS SUFFICIENT**

**The Secret of our Sufficiency in Christ:** (Vs 5-9)  
*5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.*

**The Secret to living Sufficient in Christ is believing He IS COMING BACK!**

**Do You Believe He is Coming Back?**

(Jn 14:3) Jesus said he was coming back.  
(1 Thes 4:16-17) Paul said He was coming back.  
(Acts 1:11) The Angels said He was coming back.

**Do You Believe He is Coming Back?**

PROVE IT! Put your money where your behavior is!

**The Manifestation of our Sufficiency in Christ is our choices!**

*5 Let your moderation be known unto all men.*

Do you believe His PROMISES?  
Do you believe His RETURN?

**PROVE IT with your Mouth and Rejoice!**

**PROVE IT with your choices and Live PURE!**

(Rom 12:2) *And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

**The Manifestation of our Sufficiency in Christ is our Response to Adversity!**  
**Do We FRET or do we FAITH?**  
Do we Belly-ache or do we Believe!

***6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.***

***Be careful for nothing!***

You Say you believe His PROMISES?

You Say you believe His RETURN?

**PROVE IT with your Response to Adversity!**

***What Are You Fretting ABOUT?***

Fear is the Opposite of FAITH!

(2 Tim 1:7) *For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.*

(Rom 8:15) *For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.*

***Your Fear and Your Worry Become your gods!***

***They are your idols!***

(Heb 13:6) *So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.*

God didn't handle it WHEN you wanted Him to.  
God didn't handle it the WAY you wanted Him to.

***The Problem is, we LOVE ourselves more than we do GOD.***

(1 Jn 4:18) *There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.*

**The Manifestation of our Sufficiency in Christ is our Response to Adversity!**

***6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.***

Is your FIRST Response PANIC, or Prayer?  
Do you believe His PROMISES?  
Do you believe that He can Take care of you?  
Do you believe He know what's best for you?  
Do you believe He wants what's best for you?

**PROVE IT with your Response to Adversity!**

**PRAY!**

***but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.***

Not just the things you can't handle!  
Not just things you are indifferent about!

**PROVE IT with your Mouth and Rejoice!**

**PROVE IT with your choices and Live PURE!**

**PROVE IT with your Response to Adversity & PRAY!**

**You will Realize your Sufficiency in Christ, by experiencing God's Peace!**

***7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.***

The World around us knows nothing of God's Peace.  
The World's idea of Peace is things going the way they want them to.

This World will never have peace until the Prince of Peace Rules.

**PROVE IT WITH YOUR THOUGHTS!**

**Change our WORLD VIEW!**

**We have to change the way we think about this world**

***8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report;***

**We have to change the way we think about this world!**

***If God is FOR IT then we should be for IT.***

***If God is AGAINST IT then should we should be AGAINST IT.***

***“Well, I don't believe that”.***

***So you're smarter than God?***

***Or you just declared yourself to be your own god.***

***The devil got Adam & Eve to declare themselves god. (Gen 3)***

This is Spiritual Warfare happens.

This is where the devil does not want you to Read!

This is where the devil wants you to remain ignorant!

***if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.***

**PUT THESE THINGS IN YOUR HEAD!**

*Think on whatsoever things are true, and Accept IT!  
Think on whatsoever things are honest, and Believe IT!  
Think on whatsoever things are just, and Abide By IT!  
Think on whatsoever things are pure, and Live IT!  
Think on whatsoever things are lovely, and Appreciate IT!  
Think on whatsoever things are of good report; Defend IT!  
Think on these & REMOVE THE THINGS THAT AREN'T*

This battle for truth is bigger than what's Popular.  
There is more at stake in this life than our Self Interest.  
There is more at stake in this life than our Self Gratification.

**9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, DO: and the God of peace shall be with you.**

Do you believe His PROMISES?  
Do you believe that He can Take care of you?  
Do you believe He know what's best for you?  
Do you believe He wants what's best for you?  
**PROVE IT!**

**The Experience of our Sufficiency in Christ:** (Vs 10-13)

*10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity.*

**God came Through for me - Through YOU!**

*11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.  
I HAVE HAD TO TEACH MYSELF.  
THIS HAS NOT COME NATURALLY TO ME!*

**It is time to talk yourself off the ledge of your pity party.**  
I have had to teach myself to TRUST in CHRIST!

**SEE, NOW things are different ...**

*12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.*

**I am fully positive of my Future!**

*13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*

**IT DOES NOT SAY...**

*I can do all things through Government programs which strengtheneth me.*

*I can do all things through Education which strengtheneth me*

*I can do all things through my favorite Politician which strengtheneth me.*

*I can do all things through my Career which strengtheneth me*

*I can do all things through my Business which strengtheneth me.*

Do you believe His PROMISES?

Do you believe that He can Take care of you?

Do you believe He know what's best for you?

Do you believe He wants what's best for you?

**PROVE IT with your Mouth and Rejoice!**

**PROVE IT with your choices and Live PURE!**

**PROVE IT with your Response to Adversity & PRAY!**

**PROVE IT with your THOUGHTS change your WORLD VIEW!**