



# *Philippians* (Lesson # 36)

## ***Philippians 4:10-12 Rejoice In Whatever Circumstances***

**Let's read the text for today, verses 10-12**

**<sup>10</sup> But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned *before*, but you lacked opportunity.**

**<sup>11</sup> Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.**

**<sup>12</sup> I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.**



# ***Philippians 4:10-12 Rejoice In Whatever Circumstances***

## **Some Observations as a review**

**1:1-2 Salutation v2:**

**“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”**

**1:3-11 God’s work in believers is perfect v6:**

**“He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus”**

**1:12-18 God spreads His gospel even in adversity v12:**

**“my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel”**

**1:19-30 Believers are united to Christ forever v21:**

**“to live is Christ and to die is gain”**

**2:1-4 Believers now should be united to each other v2: “... by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose”**

**2:5-18 Believers now should be revealing Christ v13:**

**“it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His* good pleasure”**

**2:19-24 Timothy revealed Christ’s focus on others v20: “For I have no one *else* of kindred spirit who will genuinely be concerned for your welfare”**

**2:25-30 Epaphroditus revealed Christ’s faithfulness v25: “my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger and minister to my need”**

**3:1-11 False and True circumcision explained v10 : “that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death”**



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### **Some Observations as a review**

**3:12-16 Single focus of maturing believers v14:** “I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

**3:17-21 Contrast of focus, earthly self interest vs heaven and God’s interest v21:** “who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.”

**4:1-9 Standing firm in Christ’s goal gives harmony, joy, and the peace of God v7:** “And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

**4:10-19 The peace of God brings care and contentment to mature believers v12:** “I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.”

**4:20-23 Final Godly praise, greetings of God’s family, and Grace blessings v23:** “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.”



## **Philippians 4:10-12 Rejoice In Whatever Circumstances**

### **Some Observations on verse 10**

**\*4:10** But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned *before*, but you lacked opportunity.

**What is the significance of the word “But” in this verse?**

It indicates that Paul is changing his thought from the maturing of us by God, to the outflow of the Peace of God, that growing believers have.

**What is the focus this “But” moves us into, beginning at verse 10?**

That we care about the needs of God’s family and share what He provides to us. God is persuading us to think His thoughts, while He does His work through us.

**What is Paul’s mature reaction to the God’s work being done?**

He rejoiced greatly, sharing God’s joy, Who did this work to and through them.

**Was there a rebuke in the “that now at last” phrase?**

No, this is an expression of joy over them continually being caring believers.

**Did they do the reviving of concern mentioned here?**

No, they continually cared but were hindered in expressing their care.

**How do we know they continually cared in the past?**

Because “you were concerned” is saying: “continual past action.” God used the imperfect tense here, to express this clearly to the Philippians.

**What does “you lacked opportunity” mean?**

Imperfect tense says “continual past action” and God’s will is involved. God works all things... as He wills to do. Rom 8:28, more to come in next verses.





## ***Philippians 4:10-12 Rejoice In Whatever Circumstances***

### **Some Observations on verse 11**

**\*4:11 Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.**

**What does “Not that” lead us to understand here?**

**That he could be misunderstood and wants them to be correctly informed.**

**Is he speaking in order to have them give to him on the basis of his needs?**

**No, Paul wanted understanding of God’s perspective of human circumstances.**

**How does “I have learned” add to our understanding of God’s thoughts?**

**God’s way is to teach us to believe God’s reality as fast as we allow Him.**

**What then does God produce in us, when we “have learned”?**

**The “to be content” is to be trusting God and thinking His perfect thoughts.**

**How big is the scope of the circumstances we may encounter?**

**Per the “whatever” we are informed this is during every kind of circumstance.**



## ***Philippians 4:10-12 Rejoice In Whatever Circumstances***

### **Some Observations on verse 12**

**\*4:12 I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.**

**What kind of knowledge is in the words “I know”?**

This is Indicative Perfect in form, and repeated twice, telling us that what we know now is what we learned in the past, this is God’s permanent true reality.

**How did Paul get this knowledge of the reality that is God’s?**

The context in verse 11 is; “I have learned”, in this verse it is “I have learned”.

**What does “how” add to understanding God’s ways with us?**

God has taught us “how” to respond with trust in Him, in all His ways with us.

There is no word for “how” in the Greek, it is from the infinitives used here.

In grammar, this is the form of talking about what we heard and learned from others, or technically as “indirect discourse”, repeated 6 times in this verse.

3 pairs of the contrasting reality of God are shown by 3 underlines in the verse.

**What are God’s ways with us that are mentioned in this verse?**

They are; “humble means” vs “prosperity”, “being filled” vs “going hungry”, and “having abundance” vs “suffering need”.

**What does “learned the secret” add to understanding God’s ways with us?**

The word used means to be initiated into & experience what is God’s reality.

**To what extent are we to know and experience God’s reality?**

The answer is “in any and every circumstance”.



# ***Philippians 4:10-12 Rejoice In Whatever Circumstances***

## **Some Applications for us**

**Mature believers have  
the peace of God  
which includes joy while;  
caring for others and resting in God's care.**

**God's focus is to conform us to be like Christ,  
sharing the intimacies of His thinking**

**God wants us to know Him now,  
and  
to be in harmony with His purposes  
when He comes for us at the rapture.**

**The following is the preparation for this lesson  
of carefully reading and translating  
what God has given us in these verses.  
Upon this foundation  
this lesson has been given.**



## ***Philippians 4:10-12 Rejoice In Whatever Circumstances***

**\*10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned *before*, but you lacked opportunity.**

**11 Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. 12 I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.**

**\*\*10 But I rejoiced in *the* Lord greatly that now once again you have revived the *need* in behalf of me, thinking of concern on account of it, indeed *formerly* you were being concerned but you had no opportunity. 11 Not that according to need I am speaking, for I have learned in whatever circumstances I am being, content to be. 12 I have come to be knowing, even having been humbled, I have come to be knowing also being prosperous, in little, in much, I have been initiated to know even being made fully satisfied while also being hungry, even being rich while also being made poor.**

**\*\*\*10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that already once more you let your concern for my welfare blossom into activity again, in which matter you were all along thoughtful, but you never had an opportunity. 11 It is not that I speak as regards a need, for, so far as I am concerned, I have come to learn, in the circumstances in which I am placed, to be independent of these and self-sufficient. 12 I know in fact how to discipline myself in lowly circumstances. I know in fact how to conduct myself when I have more than enough. In everything and in all things I have learned the secret, both to be satiated and to be hungry, and to have more than enough and to lack.**





## Philippians 4:10-12 Rejoice In Whatever Circumstances

\*10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned *before*, but you lacked opportunity.

Ἐχάρην [v ind aor pass 1ps χαίρω] I rejoiced,

δὲ [conj δέ] but, and

ἐν [prep ἐν] with dative can be Locative in, Instrumental by, object to

κυρίῳ [n dat ms κύριος] Lord

μεγάλως, [adv μεγάλως] greatly

ὅτι [con ὅτι] that, because, since

ἤδη [adj adv ἤδη] now, already

ποτέ [particle ποτέ] once, ever, formerly

ἀνεθάλλετε [v ind aor act 2pp ἀναθάλλω] again you + grew up, revived, became active

τὸ [def art acc neut sing ὁ] the need

ὑπὲρ [prep ὑπέρ] w gen, in behalf of

ἐμοῦ [pro personal gen sing ἐγώ] of/for me

φρονεῖν· [inf pres act φρονέω] thinking of honor, respect, concern, about

ἐφ' [prep ἐπί] w dative, on, near, during, on account of

ᾧ [pronoun rel dat neut sing ὅς] it,

καὶ [conj καί] and, also, even, indeed

ἐφρονεῖτε, [v ind imperf act 2pp φρονέω] you kept on thinking, you were concerned

ἠκαιρεῖσθε [v ind imperf mid/pass dep 2pp ἀκαιρέομαι] you had no opportunity

δέ. [conj δέ] but, and, because

\*\* My literal translation

But I rejoiced in *the* Lord greatly that now once again you have revived the *need* in behalf of me, thinking of concern on account of it, indeed formerly you were being concerned but you had no opportunity.



## Philippians 4:10-12 Rejoice In Whatever Circumstances

\*11 Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.

Οὐχ [particle οὐ] **no, not**  
ὅτι [conj ὅτι] **that**, because, since  
καθ' [prep κατά] w acc, **according to**, during, throughout  
ὑστέρησιν [n acc fs ὑστέρησις] **need**, want, poverty  
λέγω· [v ind pres act 1ps λέγω] **I am speaking**  
ἐγὼ [pronoun pers nom sing ἐγώ] **I** adds emphasis when this pronoun is used  
γὰρ [conj γάρ] **for**  
ἐμαθον, [v indi aor act 1ps μαθάνω] **I have learned**, comprehended, understand  
ἐν [prep ἐν] ] with dative can be Locative **in**, Instrumental by, object to  
οἷς [pronoun rel dat masc pl οἷς] under or in **whatever circumstances**  
εἰμί, [v ind pres act 1ps εἰμί] **I am being**  
αὐτάρκης [adj nom masc sing αὐτάρκης] **content**, satisfied  
εἶναι. [inf pres act εἶμί] **to be**

\*\* My literal translation

**Not that according to need I am speaking, for I have learned in whatever circumstances I am being, content to be**



## Philippians 4:10-12 Rejoice In Whatever Circumstances

\* 12 I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.

Οἶδα [v ind perf act 1ps εἶδῶ] I have come to be knowing  
καὶ ταπεινοῦσθαι, [conj+inf pres pass ταπεινῶ] even while being humbled  
οἶδα [v ind perf act 1ps εἶδῶ] I have come to be knowing  
καὶ περισσεύειν· [conj+ inf pres act περισσεύω] also being prosperous  
ἐν [prep ἐν] with dative can be Locative in, Instrumental by, object to  
παντὶ [adj dat masc s πᾶς] little  
καὶ [conj καί] and, also, even  
ἐν [prep ἐν] with dative can be Locative in, Instrumental by, object to  
πᾶσιν [adj dat masc p πᾶς] much  
μεμύημαι [v indi perf pass 1ps μυέω] I have been initiated to know (the mystery)  
καὶ χορτάζεσθαι [conj+inf pres pass χορτάζω] even being made fully satisfied  
καὶ πεινᾶν, [conj+inf pres act πεινάω] while also being hungry  
καὶ περισσεύειν [conj+inf pres act περισσεύω] even being rich, in abundance  
καὶ ὑστερεῖσθαι. [conj+inf pres pass ὑστερέω] while also being made poor, in need

### \*\* My literal translation

I have come to be knowing, even having been humbled, I have come to be knowing also being prosperous, in little, in much, I have been initiated to know even being made fully satisfied while also being hungry, even being rich while also being poor.