

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for March 22-23, 2003

Dale Whitehead

"The Philippians' Gift to Paul"

Philippians 4:10-20

What did Paul's thank you to the Philippians involve?

Thanking the Philippians involved telling them how their gift made him feel.

Thanking the Philippians also involved clarifying that their expression of care was a greater spiritual benefit for them rather than for him (Philippians 4:11-17).

Paul began this clarification by looking at the spiritual benefit of their gift to himself (Philippians 4:11-13).

Paul concluded his clarification by looking at the spiritual benefit of the gift to the Philippians themselves (Philippians 4:14-17).

Thanking the Philippians also involved an evaluation of the financial benefits of their gift (Philippians 4:18-20).

The first financial benefit of the Philippians' gift was that all of Paul's present financial needs had been met.

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The word translated "I have" (APECHO) was frequently used as a technical term for receiving a sum of money in full and giving a receipt for it.

The word "abundance" (PERISSEUO) is used by Paul as an expansion and amplification of the sufficiency of what he had received.

The second financial benefit of the Philippians' gift to Paul was their financial needs would be met by the Lord Himself.

We as the church no longer have to bring animal sacrifices to a bloody altar in anticipation of Christ's death, but as priests we are to continue to bring spiritual sacrifices (1 Peter 2:5).

The Philippians, in giving a financial gift to Paul in order to support his ministry, had from his standpoint offered up a spiritual sacrifice to God.

Paul had been speaking about his financial need being met through their gift, therefore the promise that God would supply all their needs is primarily financial.

Paul did not say that God would supply all their wants, but he said God would supply all their needs.

"According to His riches in glory" assures us of an infinite supply of resources to meet our basic needs.

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The heavenly minded will not need to be assured of anything more than simply having enough food and clothing to sustain them in the pursuit of their heavenly goal.

Not only will giving pay off spiritually as we have seen in Philippians 4:11-17, but it will also pay off financially according to Philippians 4:18-19.