

May 15, 2022

A Fresh Look (Philippians 4:18-23)

by Warren Berkley

I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen. Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers who are with me greet you. All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

It is noteworthy, in these final verses of Paul's letter to Philippi, that the apostle was not a tedious accountant about his reception of generosity.

Some people are. We had that couple over for dinner, but they have never paid us back!

Or, I loaned him \$100 when he was in need, but now he can't loan me \$50!

This is that tedious accounting mentality that keeps records about deeds both done and received, with expectation that everything must perfectly balance.

Contrary to this accounting mentality, the Lord said, "...do good and lend, expecting nothing in return," (Lk. 6:25).

It is apparent, Paul was not burdened by the accounting mentality, and that he embraced the spirit of what Jesus taught.

"I have received full payment, and more." Paul favored the people of Philippi by delivering the gospel of Christ to them (see Acts 16). Those who became Christians gave generously to Paul, in support of his evangelistic work (see verse 15). In this fellowship, Paul didn't put a price on anything and he didn't harbor an expectation of some perceived (carnal) perfect balance. Rather, he was satisfied and grateful. "I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God."

In Paul's heart, this was all good. Why? Because their fellowship was "pleasing to God." Instead of expecting a perfect balance in their exchange with each other, if it was pleasing to God, Paul was happy.

Paul hoped and prayed for them that God would "supply every need" they had. This supplication was based on the riches in glory God provides in Jesus Christ. And this leads to Paul praise, "to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen."

Paul's good will continued: "Greet every saint in Christ Jesus." Brethren with Paul joined him in this: "The brothers who are with me greet you." Other were included: "All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household. The grace of the Lord Jesus

Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends.

We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.

Important Dates

Our summer meeting with Mike Walls is scheduled for June 19-22

Our fall meeting with Zeke Flores is scheduled for September 18-21

If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here.

Christ be with your spirit.”

Paul didn't know how to press upon people the accounting mentality. Paul knew how to write a great “thank you” note!

Paul knew how to preach and write the truth of God. But his heart was not dry and academic or robotic. His deep, sincere emotional nature shines through in these final words to his Christian friends in Philippi. May we learn to nourish this spirit.

Prayer Requests

Jack Wilson is still struggling with pain and limited mobility.

Jerry Richardson is still undergoing treatments to strengthen his immune system.

Karen Hallmark has improved but continues to struggle and could use our prayers.

Dinah Williams is home but still has very limited mobility.

Don Simmons is home and still struggling with his breathing; he is on oxygen at all times.

John Miller (Dyanne Turner's brother) has one chemo treatment left, later this month. He says he feels stronger, and is getting around better

Debbie McMurray had her last chemo treatment but will begin radiation in a few weeks.

Wilma Shipley broke her foot but is now walking on it again.

Jimmy Stinnett is having an irregular heart rhythm and had a stress test. They are adjusting his medications.

Keith Trammel is sick with covid and the whole family is quaranting.

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

“praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,”
(Ephesians 6:18 ESV)

The Oaks West church of Christ is a group of individual Christians who have been added to the Lord's body through baptism (Acts 2:38, 47; Gal 3:26, 27), and have joined themselves together (Acts 2:42ff) in an effort to do the Lord's will.

We are not a part of any larger organization - we do not follow any man-made creeds and we do not answer to anyone other than the Lord.

Our standard of faith and practice is the Word of God. We believe in the God of revelation (Eph 3:1-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17) and follow his instructions in an effort to have an ongoing relationship with him (1 John 4:7-11; 5:3).

Our times of study and worship are open to all, and our members are happy to meet with interested individuals or families for study.

Evangelist

Darrell Trammel
512-756-4493 Office
Darrell@
oakswestchurchofChrist.com

Elders

George Gresham
Jim Johnson
Darrell Trammel

Contact Us

Address:
P.O. Box 675
Burnet, TX 78611

Call:
(512) 756-4493

E-Mail:
oakswestchurch@gmail.com

Website:
oakswestchurchofchrist.com