

Strength for the Mission

Description

Philippians 4:4-13

Philippians 4:13 is one of the most beloved and quoted Bible verses. I am intrigued by two words: “all this.” What is Paul referring to when he says, “I can do all this” (emphasis added)? This is often mistakenly interpreted to mean that God will bless our plans to reach some degree of human achievement. Paul was not concerned with worldly success or personal goals.

Digging deeper, preceding verse 13, Paul talks about being content no matter the circumstances. Paul had experienced all the extremes in his life. Paul was making clear that he triumphed over difficulties only because Christ empowered him.

He was confident that even in trials yet to come, God would give him the strength to make it through. Paul was focused on his present mission. He was persecuted for preaching the gospel.

God will always give strength to those who are living out the life modeled by Christ. Nothing will stop the movement of the gospel in this world.

Author: Carol Rittenhouse

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