

Daily Devotional, April 29, 2020

“Without Complaining”, (Philippians 2:14, NKJV)

“Do all things without complaining and disputing” (Philippians 2:14)

In this section of Paul’s Epistle to the Philippians, the Christian is exhorted to be a light bearer, to be a good and positive Christian testimony. Complaining is something that ought not to be done by the Christian. Complaining is sin, and it is an outward show of an inward spirit of negativity, and of a thankless attitude towards God and others. This sin can be contagious, like a virus, and we all know that base human nature gravitates toward the negative, and not the positive.

Consider Israel in the wilderness. God had blessed the people and did great things among them, yet they complained often times. *“Now when the people complained, it displeased the LORD”* (Numbers 11:1). The Bible also says that *“The foolishness of a man twists his way, And his heart frets against the LORD”* (Proverbs 19:3).

Are you still employed in this trying time? If not, are your basic needs—not wants, needs—being met right now somehow? If so, God is providentially seeing to it that they are. Do you have your health? Maybe so, maybe no—but if not, do you have assurance of heaven through the blood of the cross of Christ? If you have that, then you have spiritual blessings in heavenly places that cannot be removed.

Christian friend, let us be not like the world. There is sufficient negativity in the world. It has no need of more. And certainly the Christian faith has no need of lousy testimony. Has the Lord need of curmudgeons, disputers, and complainers? Let us be *“without complaining”*, a breath of fresh air, spiritually distanced from and opposite the world. *“Now godliness with contentment is great gain. And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content”* (1 Timothy 6:6,8). May our positive spirits be such that we have peace, are able to pray always with thanksgiving, and bear the light of Christ in these dark days in this dark world. *“Without complaining.”*