

From Pastor's Desk...

My God Shall Supply

Phil 4:19

D.L. Moody would quote the closing words of St. Paul to Philippians, "My God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

Here is a blank check:

The Firm: "My God"

The Promise: "Shall Supply

The Amount: "All Your Need"

The Capital: "His Riches"

The Address of the Bank: "In Glory"

The Signature: "Christ Jesus"

Then he would add, "This check must be endorsed by the person to whom it is made payable.

Paul thanks the church at Philippi for their generous gift. He compares their giving as an investment (4:14-17) and as a sacrifice (4:18). Paul does not see this gift as coming from Philippi. He sees it as the supply of his need from heaven. Warren W. Wiersbe says that there is an interesting contrasting between *Philippians 4:18 and 19*.

Verse 18:

You met my need

You met one need that I have

You gave out of your poverty

Verse 19:

God is going to meet your need

God will meet all of your needs

God will supply your needs with his riches in glory

God has not promised us to supply all our 'greeds'. The promise of supply to meet all the needs is made to a supplying church. Hudson Taylor said, "When God's work is done in God's way for God's glory, it will not lack for God's supply." This promise is a special promise to a special, not a general public.

"My God Supplies all Needs"

No matter what the problem is

My Bible clearly reads

That from His throne in Heaven above

My God supplies all needs

He clothes the lilies of the field

And little birds He feeds

And for His own we know He cares

My God supplies all needs

And so however dark the veil

Through which your pathway leads

Of this your faith can be assured

My God supplies all needs

(Robert Byers)

God bless you.

Rev. K. M. Varughese

(Senior Pastor, IPC Hebron, Los Angeles)

Accepting God's Provision

Kochumol Shajee, Fellowship Coordinator

Do you ever feel that God is so busy with other important concerns that he cannot possibly be aware of your needs?

Well! We can trust that God will always meet our needs. Whatever we need on earth He will always supply, even if it is the courage to face death as Paul did. Whatever we need in heaven He will supply. However, we must remember the differences between our wants and our needs.

Most people want to feel good and avoid discomfort or pain; we may not get all that we want. By trusting in Christ, our attitudes and appetites can change from wanting everything to accepting His provision and power to live for Him.

Paul went through many obstacles in his life: several days without food, stuck in the middle of an ocean for days and nights, sentenced to jail, and so on but he still rejoiced, because he knows our God is a great God, and He will never forsake us and will take care all of our needs.

Without murmuring or complaining, we will have to be satisfied with what we are given. I am praying that we should all have an attitude like Paul, who rejoiced in both his good and bad times!

Claim Your Promise

Shelvin G Koshy, Esq. Media Coordinator

Many believers understand Philippians 4:19 to be God's promise that He will enrich his followers according to His limitless supply. One might think that surely God's storehouses are so unfathomable that every believer is able to become a billionaire instantly! Why is this not the case then? First, we must examine Paul's motive behind this infamous verse. Once we understand Paul's motive, we can understand how to claim this promise for ourselves.

To understand Paul's intent, we must start at verse 10. Here, Paul thanks the church at Philippi for their [gifts] for him (Phil 4:10). Jesus told His disciples not to worry about clothing or food (Matt 6:25-26) and Paul mentions his adherence to this command by being content with whatever he had, whether it was during a time of need or a time of plenty (Phil 4:11-12).

For us to claim this promise for ourselves, it is important to note that the Philippians were the first church that supported Paul (Phil 4:15). Indeed, Paul called their gifts "a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God" (Phil 4:18). Thus, in order to claim this promise for ourselves we must first practice sacrificial giving to the Lord.

In Luke 21, we see Jesus comparing the poor widow with the rich donating in the temple. Noting that the poor widow put in two very small copper coins, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on." It is the sacrifice behind giving that is more important than the amount. Paul was so grateful for the Philippian church's sacrifice that he asked God to shower them with blessings (Phil 4:19).

Although we have many financial obligations, we should take comfort in our sacrificial giving with Malachi 3:10: "Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."