

Philippians 2:14–15

“God's Content Children”

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Philippians chapter 2 our portion this afternoon is verses 14 and 15, let's pray.

Help us know we pray oh God for. Apart from your grace, we have no life no good in us. Not even the good of reading or speaking or hearing your word well. And so tend us by your spirit and glorify yourself in Christ. To whom you have joined us and through whom we ask it amen.

Moving into verses 14 and 15. Do all things without complaining and disputing. That you may become blameless and harmless. Children of God without fault. In the midst of a crooked and perverse generation. Among them you shine. As lights in the world.

So far the, Reading of God's inspired and inherent word. Do all things without complaining or grumbling and disputing or arguing. Perhaps no group of people and scripture as more famous for having done everything with grumbling and arguing as the generation that came out of Egypt. And their crumbling against the Lord.

We. Because we do not appreciate the greatness and glory of his goodness to us like we ought felt to appreciate the wickedness. Of our grumbling and murmuring. Under his hand and in response to him. Especially when he has done something so great for us. I think that if you are all like I am.

When you are reading through exodus or numbers even in Leviticus and Deuteronomy and the way that they complain against God and continuously grumbling against his providence to them and raising themselves up against his servant. Moses whom he by whom he was leading them and saving them, we are often ready for Psalm 95 yeah, how can this generation?

That saw these things and that the Lord did this step for how can they possibly crumble against him?

But I suggest to you dear. Christian that the apostle has just now in Philippians in the context leading up to us held up the mirror and says as he not done much greater for you. Yes, they saw the flags and they saw the Egypt humbled and they saw the red sea split and they saw the fire and the cloud of glory and.

There's the apostle not just told us that he who is in the form of God. Took the form of a bond slave and became a man so that he could die for us on the cross. And as he not just immediately in the context said that the way you're and my salvation is being worked out is because God himself is doing it and shall we of whom chapter 1 and verse 6 said that God has begun this work in us and God will complete this work in us and of whom the verse immediately proceeding our text this afternoon says that it is God who is working in us but the will and to work for his good pleasure.

Shall we grumble. And argue complain. Under the Providence of God to us. And yet we often find ourselves doing so and so he sets before us not only this mirror as it were using the the same logic by which we rightly by which we rightly are horrified at the exodus generation, but also by setting before us the logic of whose children we are and what the generation we live in is like, So continuous verse 15 saying that you may become blameless and innocent harmless no evil in you whatsoever children of God.

Says don't you realize who your daddy is? Not only should we want to bring him honor and glory? But we want to reflect his character. You see we've got two things pulling on us one is the one who has adopted us in Christ the son who is glorified as the one whose name is above every other name and who is the Lord he's glorified as those things by our being conformed to his image who died for us.

But then the other hand we have the world that we still live in that is the opposite of him in every way. It hates God, it is a world of crookedness and perverseness, there's not a straight thing in God's law that this world doesn't want to twist and pervert and turn crooked.

And we have seen that the less the gospel is preached and believed and the Christ of the gospel clung to and delighted in and submitted to. The more the law of God has been can under continuous attacks so that everything that could possibly made crooked or perverse it is a generation of darkness a world of darkness and so we've got these two things pulling on us.

And he says, do you not realize that a grumbling complaining spirit belongs to the perverse generation? That God said about that generation that it is a generation that goes astray that is corrupted in their hearts and he swore. In his wrath, they would not enter his rest. He says that's the the that grumbling and complaining spirit doesn't belong to the spirit of the child of God it belongs to the crooked and perverse generation, what is the child of God look like well it looks like his only begotten son, doesn't it?

It looks like after 40 days of not just eating and drinking but the devil attacking him with every temptation. Not just not eating and drinking fasting but the devil attacking him and being in the wilderness by himself the devil comes and says if you are the Son of God tell these stones to become bread.

And there's God's only that there's God's firstborn child in the wilderness right just what he had said of Israel. Israel is my firstborn, son, let him

go that he may work with me. And Jesus forty days in the wilderness the Holy Spirit you have pointing as it were with neon sign saying this is the Sun.

That Israel ought to have been and couldn't be and to whom I will conform you when I redeem you. The devil comes tell these stones to become bread. Jesus says, no. I'm content with what I have for my father. His man doesn't live by brought alone. And I've become a man and I live by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.

And so there's a real strong isn't there condemnation of grumbling and complaining and incentive against it for us that we would want to reflect the spirit of Christ and not the spirit of a perverse generation. This hits home, doesn't it because? Let us get two or three minutes into whatever conversation we're going to have as soon as we pray and start cleaning up and get ready to go and immediately we'll have a hundred different temptations to grumbling won't we?

That complaining spirit for whatever comes in his Providence this evening or tomorrow morning or throughout the week. Oh, but it is God who is working in us both to will and to work and it is his son. To whom he is conforming us. So, let us make this part of the battle cry of our Christian life to do all things.

Without grumbling without complaining without disputing that arguing and may he grant it to us let's pray that he would.

Father give us the contentment that belongs to the righteousness of your son. So that we may be blameless and pure. In this crooked and perverse generation. Delighting in your law and delighting also in your providence to us. Knowing that it does come from your fatherly hand. And wanting to be your children who are content with your wisdom for us.

Granted to us by your spirit who produces in us love and joy and peace and patience and kindness and goodness and faithfulness and gentleness and self-control how we praise you that you this is the spirit whom you have given to us. Grant that his fruit would be more and more evident in our lives which we ask for Christ's glory and through His name.

Amen