

SATURDAY Celebration

Romans 15:14-16

**"Satisfied with the Right Things"**

## V. 14 ... I AM SATISFIED

— *What does the apostle find to be satisfying fruit of his ministry (of the gospel)?*

Consider how Paul saw his Ministry ....

**Rom 15:16** a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering as a priest the gospel of God, so that my offering of the Gentiles may become acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

**Acts 26:16-18** But get up and stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you; 17 rescuing you from the Jewish people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, 18 to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.'

**Eph 4:11-15** And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. 14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; 15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head

### **The 3 Dynamics Paul Was Satisfied with (in Rom 15:14)— Fruitful Lives ...**

Knowledgeable/Insightful Lives .... Able to be Effectively Communicated to Others

**(1) Full of Goodness - fruit .....** *"It's Not Just What You Know— But What You Do w/ What You Know"*

Contrast This Commendation With:

**1 Cor 13:1-2** If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

– Throughout 1 Corinthians they are being CORRECTED for their UNSATISFACTORY LOVE!

**Jn 15:16** "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit"

- IMMEDIATE CONTEXT – The application of Rom 14....
- TODAY'S CONTEXT – *Is There Observable Fruit from the Seeds of Truth Sown into the Body of Christ?*

## (2) Filled w/ Knowledge ... Insight & Understanding

- **Knowledge of What?** (Is Paul impressed by their Academics ... their Philosophy?)  
“ In the NT *ginosko* frequently indicates a relation between the person "knowing" and the object known; in this respect, what is "known" is of value or importance to the one who knows (from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)  
  
**Eph 1:16-17** do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers; 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him.
- **Knowledge Related to TRUTH**  
“ NT: *ginōiskō* emphasizes understanding rather than sensory perception, and as distinct from *dokein* it is a perception of things as they are, not an opinion about them. (from Theological Dictionary of the New Testament)  
  
- Fruit needs to be Based on Truth — Is the goodness in our lives defined by Truth? Many people are living Sacrificial Lives, Energetic & Disciplined & Productive lives— but IS IT ACCORDING TO TRUTH?
- **"Filled" with Knowledge**

## (3) Able to Instruct - Maturity ... (The Ability to TRANSFER What You Know to Others)

“ Our tendency toward ecclesiastical consumerism has seriously weakened the church. For most of us, church is merely an event we attend or an organization we belong to. We do not see it as a calling that shapes our entire life. But consider this: we could not hire enough paid staff to meet the ministry needs of the average local church. The “passive body that pays the professionals” culture of the modern evangelical church must be forsaken for the ministry model God has so wisely ordained. Paul Tripp, “Instruments in the Redeemer’s Hands”, p. xii

? **Can the Avg. Christian Explain the Gospel & Lead Someone to Salvation?**

? **Can the Avg. Christian Do a Reasonable Level of Counseling?**

**Why Do We Do Seminars ... Recommend Materials ... etc.**

– Eph 4:11ff .... To EQUIP You for the Work of Ministry (for yourself and others)... We Must Be Able to Instruct Others!!

“ What God has ordained for his church is both wonderful and sobering. ...It is sobering because this work follows an “all of my people, all of the time” mode. ... The leaders of His church have been gifted, positioned, and appointed to train and mobilize the people of God for this “every person, everyday” ministry lifestyle. Paul Tripp, “Instruments in the Redeemer’s Hands”, p. xi

## V. 15 ... "BUT ON SOME POINTS"

... Even when there is satisfaction (the good all encompassing balance of these 3 elements), there is still room for further instruction & insight and the need for being REMINDED

- **"I've been bold because of my calling"**
  - Calling & Divine Appointment brings with it Earnest Conviction & Passion
  - How Did the Variety of Believers in Rome Receive this Boldness?
  
- **The Ministry of "REMINDER"**
  - At Some Point Most of Your Christian Teaching is going to be a Reminder— not "Something New"
    - ***There's No N.T. Apology for Reminding***
      - 2 Tim 1:6 For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you
      - 2 Tim 2:14 Remind them of these things
      - Titus 3:1-2 Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed, 2 to malign no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing every consideration for all men.
      - 2 Peter 1:12-13 Therefore, I will always be ready to remind you of these things, even though you already know them, and have been established in the truth which is present with you. 13 I consider it right, as long as I am in this earthly dwelling, to stir you up by way of reminder,
      - 2 Peter 3:1-2 This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you in which I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, 2 that you should remember the words spoken beforehand
  
    - ***The Thirst for "NEW REVELATION" has led to much Heresy and Imbalanced Emphasis and Practice***
  - The need for Older Christians to be convinced:
    - to keep growing; That there's more we don't know than we do ...
    - to not make the wrong assumption that because we've Previously HEARD something It's Sufficiently EFFECTING US...

### **APPLICATION**

In What Ways is the Lord SATISFIED— w/ LCC and w/ you personally?

In What Ways Would the Lord SPEAK BOLDLY — to LCC and to you Personally?

In What Areas Do We Need to be REMINDED? [Something that's fallen from health to disrepair, from intentional to neglected]