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Count Your Many Blessings

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COUNT YOUR MANY BLESSINGS

Competition!
Material life!

Forecast: Days ahead of less abundant
Apostle Paul, a remarkable man! Happy man; contented with life; happy with world! Unusual! He lived in a day of Inflation, Shortages and world-wide opposition to his mission in life!
LESSON: Paul's secrets which led to abundant life

INT:

I. PAUL COUNTED HIS BLESSINGS MORE THAN HIS SHORTAGES. (Practiced what he preached!)

- A. * Phil. 4:9-13. Soul-care came first.
- B. SECRET: "He enjoys much who is thankful for little; a grateful mind is both a great and a happy mind." SECKER.
- C. QUOTE: "A man's true wealth may be determined more by the fewness of his WANTS than by the abundance of what he has."
- D. Paul was a RICH man with few material goods!
*Phil. 3:7-8. He counted his blessings more than his shortages.

II. PAUL WAS GRATEFUL FOR EVERY SMALL BLESSING. (Preached what he practiced!)

- A. *Rom. 1:8. A good report from Rome. *deeply concerned!*
- B. *I Thess. 2:11-13. Honestly accepted truth.
- C. We enjoy blessings we have long forgotten!
 - 1. How many grateful to EDWARD JENNER'S milk-maid friend? (Small-pox epidemic. Came to vaccinate her. She refused. Said couldn't take small-pox, because already had COW-POX. Led to vaccine and our wonderful immunization protection.
 - 2. Alexander Fleming. Studying cures for modern diseases. Wind gusts contaminated his lab slides. Upset him. Led to growth of some blue-mold cultures which killed most bacteria. PENICILLIAN!
 - 2. How many grateful to CHARLES GOODRICH? Working with rubber in kitchen at home. Coated it with powdered-sulphur. Still stayed sticky---so threw it behind the hot stove. Next day: Not sticky! Had learned process of VULCANIZATION. Made great change in world of travel.
Paul would be too busy today being grateful for small things to worry too much about the FEW problems facing us.

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III. MOST OF ALL, PAUL WAS GRATEFUL FOR GOD'S CARE.

- A. He knew the promises of Matt. 6:33.
I Cor. 2:9. Matt. 28:18-20. Always with U
 - B. *II Tim. 4:16-18. Knew God cared.
 - C. *Acts 27:21-25. Encouraged in shipwreck.
 - D. * Acts 28:~~14~~¹⁵. Finally to preach to Caesar
- Paul counted his OPPORTUNITIES more than his obstacles.**

INV. ASK YOU TO PAUSE WITH ME TO COUNT THREE OF OUR GREATEST BLESSINGS OF ALL.

- #1. That I am not left in spiritual darkness.
* II Tim. 1:7-10. I CAN BE SAVED.
Like Paul: Acts 22:16.
- #2. That I am not ruled by a hard and unloving Creator. John 3:16-17.
- #3 My Judge at the Judgment will not be unsympathetic and unkind to me.
Heb. 4:15. II Tim. 4:7-8.

MT 2-24-74 1R