"I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. <u>I can</u> do all things <u>through</u> <u>Christ</u> which strengtheneth me." Philippians 4:12-13 KJV

Doing "all things" doesn't mean I accomplish whatever I desire. It means much more. It means, through faith in Christ, I can calmly and confidently endure whatever circumstance may afflict or uplift me if I pursue Godliness in thought through constant meditation in God's



Word. I can be confident that; in poverty, in wealth, in sickness, in health, in obscurity, in persecution, or in popularity my eternity is secure and God is in control of every detail! Believers are who they are by the grace, providence, and plan of their Blessed Redeemer. If I am poor, it is to allow me to reach the poor with the Gospel. I can enjoy the fellowship of the Saviour's suffering and gain insight into what He endured on my behalf. "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that ye through His poverty might be rich." My riches are not earthly. They are being kept in store for my appointed arrival in Heaven. My inheritance is secure. "We, who first trusted in Christ...were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance...giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light." Pauper or a prince, it will have little effect on eternity. If we allow earthly life to affect us, it deprives of the peace and unspeakable joy of "walking in the Light." If happiness is circumstances, there is a plethora of emotions and anxiety. If happiness is God's favor, then obedience allows peace to reign. I'll be "unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord," because "Great peace have they which love Thy law, and nothing shall offend them." Even death can't perturb, because it is just the end of physical pain and sorrow and the beginning of a blessed eternity! The Apostle could hardly restrain himself from wanting to leave this life, but his love of Christ and the saints restrained him and calmed his spirit. He concluded thusly, "For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you. And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith." For two millennia, his Holy Spirit inspired texts have instructed, rebuked, and uplifted the saints. Life is Heaven's waiting room for believers and we can endure it for our Savior and through faith in our Him "for it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure. For your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." There'll be enough concern tomorrow without you adding its perceived troubles to today's burden.

> If all is done to please our Lord, By those that trust His Holy Word, There's naught can fluster nor alarm, For they're upheld by God's own arm. ~CGP

The KING is still ruler of every atom and reigns sovereignly over every circumstance in your life. Trust and obey, and come what may, there's naught can fluster any day!

"What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Romans 8:31-32 KJV