

Stand Tall Against the Fear of Financial Insecurity

This is not a sermon about wise investing, nor do I have any good stock tips. You may have lived during the Great Depression in 1929. Earlier in that year President Herbert Hoover predicted that, "the final triumph over poverty is close at hand." The people who lived during that time have a more careful mind-set about money than their children, grandchildren, or great grandchildren. Today we have a different kind of financial insecurity. For many of us we want everything our parents had worked hard for, and we want it as soon as we start living our own lives. The financial insecurity we have today is the fear of not being able to get out of debt, or not being able to live like we want to.

Financial insecurity does not necessarily mean you are poor. It may mean you are a slave to having a lot of money, and you believe you need even more. It makes no difference if your wallet is thick or thin. It just isn't easy to have total control over our finances. When we feel we are poor, we say, "God, I need You to help me." When we feel we are rich, we think, "God, I would just as soon You keep Your nose out of my finances."

Read Philippians 4:11-13. We can learn a whole lot from Paul. First of all, he was not a rich man. He worked hard for his money. He made tents for a living, and he also helped plant new churches. Someone said we can learn three things from Paul when it comes to financial security.

1. Contentment. Contentment is something you must decide you want to seek. Contentment has everything to do with who you are in Christ.

2. What our most valuable resource is. Your contentment needs to be grounded in the Savior, not in your savings.

3. How to be generous with what God has given you. Until you realize that what you possess is what God has given you, what He has entrusted you with, you will never overcome the feeling of financial insecurity.

It is easy to get discouraged when things aren't going our way, or when the utility rates get higher and gasoline goes over \$4.00/gallon. But let me tell you that the last thing we want to do is give up on God. Seek the contentment God wants you to have.

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