



REVIVAL FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

Imparting The Elijah Anointing

Apostolic Advice

May 2008

Apostolic Supply

What exactly was Paul saying to the Philippians when the promise was made to ***“supply all their needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus”***? What relevance does it have for us today who are part of the restoration movement in the Church? These are the questions that need answers at this time when people ***claim*** scriptures in a wholesale manner without checking to see what the qualifications for possession are.

Paul was the spiritual father of the Philippians; therefore his comments are directly tied to his apostolic relationship with them when he addresses the subject of financial supply for both him and them. Paul was commending them for their ***careful supply*** of all his needs as a traveling apostolic father to churches and leaders, and at the same time expressing concern for those churches that showed no interest in his financial situation. ***“Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only”***, vs.15. Paul didn't speak about financial matters because he was seeking to gain from his family, but because he understood the blessing that would result for them as a result of becoming financially responsible for his needs. ***“Not that I seek a gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account”***, vs.17. Jesus taught us to lay up treasure in heaven thru our giving when he told the Rich Young Ruler to ***“Sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven”*** Mk. 10:21. Paul also understood this truth and assured the Philippians of the same.

Notice that Paul acknowledges that he has a ***full supply*** first, before he prophecies that “full supply” blessing to the Philippians. ***“Indeed I have all and abound, I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet smelling aroma, and acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God”*** vs.18. Paul assures them that their giving was making impact in heaven because it was pleasing to God; it was that thing He expected of

them. Why was God so happy that the Philippians had given so generously to Paul? It was because it was their recognition of God's order, the very order set up by God to provide leadership and covering to the people. Their giving was evidence that they recognized Paul as God's provision for them spiritually, and they wanted to make sure that the blessing on Paul's life was continually accessible to them. God's order suggests that "**blessing flows from the head down**" *Ps. 133*, in scripture **headship** refers to spiritual covering in our lives.

Whenever a believer begins to experience lack, the first response should be to see if they can provide for their church, so to make sure your church has all it needs and watch God respond in kind to you. The same is true for ministries that have apostolic covering, when things get tight, instead of withholding giving; make sure your spiritual covering has a full supply and watch God respond to you. An Old Testament example of **supplying for your spiritual leadership** first, is found in the story of the Widow of Zarephath in 1 Kings 17:8-13. Elijah boldly told the woman to "**make me a cake first**", which resulted in the release of her miracle provision and a **full supply** for the remainder of the famine. I believe Paul was teaching the same principle to us in the New Testament in order to insure that we could have a **full supply** and be **full and abound** as Paul did. There is certainly nothing wrong with **tent making** when it is necessary, but time spent making tents was time taken away from preaching, teaching and leading the flock of God, the thing that Paul was needed most for in the Church, "**Nevertheless, to remain in the flesh is more needful for you. And being confident of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for you progress and joy of faith**". *Phil. 1:24-25*.

This touches on the principle of **honor** for spiritual leadership, and reflects upon our understanding of how God seeks to release blessing thru the principle of providing for those whom God has **sent** to our lives as Paul was sent to the Philippians for their spiritual development. When Paul told them that "**God will supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus**", it was a reciprocal response, they were reaping what they were sowing. They sowed a **full supply** to Paul, and reaped the same for themselves. The designation **Christ Jesus** is indicating that God **anointed the man Jesus**, and people were blessed thru him as we read in the Gospels. Paul was indicating that **he was an anointed man** in their life and that God was blessing them thru him, or as a result of him and the anointing upon his life. God has put **anointed men and women** in all of our lives as spiritual fathers and leaders, it is thru these people that God will bless us as well while we are demonstrating to God that we understand who they are to us, and our responsibility to honor God by honoring them. If we seek to make sure the **Paul** in our lives have a full supply, God will make sure we have one as well.