

Pastor Ron Case
12/2/12

“Abide Still”

“As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine” (1 Timothy 1:3 KJV)

**Abide – *Meno* – To Stay, Remain in a given place, state or relation
Abide Still – *Prosmeno* – To stay further, To Adhere, Persevere in**

Contentment Learning Curve

Philippians 4:11-13 – (11) “Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. (12) I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. (13) I can do all things through him who strengthens me.”

Abiding Linked with Calling

1 Corinthians 7:17, 20-22, 24 – (17) “Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. This is my rule in all the churches. (20) Each one should remain (*Abide - *Meno**) in the condition in which he was called. (21) Were you a slave when called? Do not be concerned about it. But if you can gain your freedom, avail yourself of the opportunity. (22) For he who was called in the Lord as a slave is a freedman of the Lord. Likewise he who was free when called is a slave of Christ. (24) So, brothers, in whatever condition each was called, there let him remain (*Abide - *Meno**) with God.”

Key Point – God is Found at the Place of My Calling

Thoughts:

(1) Life Proceeds from Abiding

“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.”
(John 15:4-5)

(2) Life is found in the Place God has Called us to

“As they go through the Valley of Baca (*weeping, bemoaning, complaining*) they make it a place of springs (*fountain, well*); the early rain also covers it with pools. They go from strength to strength; each one appears before God in Zion.” (Psalm 84:6-7)

(3) Life is found in the Place God has Called us to

“But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.” (Jeremiah 29:7)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

Am I rooting down deeply, or am I volatile and variable in relation to Jesus? (Ps. 92:12-15; Eph. 4:14; Mark 4:17)

As a Christian, who should I be content with irrespective of my current life situation? (1 Timothy 6:6)