

CONTENTMENT

It's All in Your Mind...Attitude is Everything (Part 4)

^{a3} If anyone advocates a different doctrine and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the doctrine conforming to godliness,

⁴ he is concealed and understands nothing; but he has a morbid interest in controversial questions and disputes about words, out of which arise envy, strife, abusive language, evil suspicions, ⁵ and constant friction between men of depraved mind and deprived of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain.

⁶ But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment. ⁷ For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. ⁸ If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content. ⁹ But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”

1 Timothy 6:3-10 (NASB)

I. **THE OPPOSITE OF COVETOUSNESS IS CONTENTMENT.**

^{a6} But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment.” 1 Timothy 6:6 (NASB)

Contentment – A satisfaction in God's sufficient provision.

– To rest in what one already has and to seek nothing more.

Four Truths:

- **We are never to be content with who we are, only with what we have.**
- **God has given us a desire for our life to be better.**
- **The desire for gain is not wrong, but it does cause many people to desire wrongly.**
- **Godliness + Contentment = Great Gain**

Five False Equations That Don't Work:

- **Godliness + Prosperity = Great Gain**
- **Godliness + Poverty = Great Gain**
- **Godliness + Power/Influence = Great Gain**
- **Godliness + Family Harmony = Great Gain**
- **Godliness + Ministry Success = Great Gain**

Have you been judging God harshly because you've been trying an equation that doesn't work?

II. HOW TO FIND CONTENTMENT:

A. **Look to eternity.**

^{a7} For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either.” 1 Timothy 6:7 (NASB)

^{a13} Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable.” Hebrews 4:13 (NLT)

B. **Let enough be enough.**

^{a8} If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.” 1 Timothy 6:8 (NASB)

1. **Seek it – “I wouldn't be happier with more.”**

2. **Say it – “I have enough!”**

3. **Settle it**

^{a10} ... If riches increase, do not set your heart upon them.” Psalm 62:10 (NASB)

C. **Learn by example.**

^{a8} But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction.” 1 Timothy 6:9 (NASB)

“Snare” – Trapped (Trapped with wrong kinds of thinking)

^{a10} For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.” 1 Timothy 6:10 (NASB)

Three Questions:

- ❖ **Am I a contented person?**
- ❖ **Am I seeing the blessings of contentment in my life?**
- ❖ **Am I choosing contentment over covetousness moment by moment?**

^{a11} Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.” Philippians 4:11 (NASB)