

Godliness with Contentment

Being content is challenging. There are so many things to desire: new car, boat, house, new clothes, shoes, new furniture and décor. I personally love dishes. Pretty little bowls are especially appealing to me. Yet, we humans can get bored mighty fast. We don't want to wear the same dress every Sunday or the same shoes. We are often discontent without variety.

Our contentment is closely connected to our godliness. (1 Timothy 6:6) If we grow in the ways of the LORD we **can** gain contentment. Think of how little our great Example, CHRIST, had in physical things. His goal was the spiritual not the temporal. We must follow His footsteps in being content with what we have.

Matthew 6:25-34 tells us that the Father already knows our needs. He will take care of us if we but seek first the kingdom of GOD. We are not to worry about the physical things—but be satisfied with what GOD provides. This in no way means we are not to work and do what we can for ourselves but it does mean we are not to over work and leave no time for GOD in our busy schedules.

Make a list of the things you believe you need. Now add a few of the things you would like to have, not necessarily a need. How many items on your list have anything to do with seeking the kingdom of GOD?

Contentment is directly connected to our priorities. “Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” (Matthew 6:21)

We must learn from the Israelites in the wilderness. They were constantly complaining and discontent. GOD brought them out of slavery in Egypt; He provided all their needs and yet they were never satisfied. GOD shows us what their discontentment brought them. Many of them died in the wilderness and never reached the Promised Land. We do not want to suffer their fate. If we can't be content without always wanting more or desiring something different, then we must ask ourselves if we treasure the spiritual or physical things. We must learn to desire godliness and all the things involved in putting GOD first in order to gain the contentment that will bring us great gain!

Contentment brings the peace that passes understanding. “Rejoice in the LORD always: and again I say Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all me, The LORD is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made known to GOD. And **the peace of GOD**, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your heart and minds through CHRIST JESUS.” (Philippians 4:4-7)

Let us all be as the apostle Paul: “Not that I speak in respect of want; for I have learned in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.” (Philippians 4:11)

Try this formula and see if your contentment increases:

- 1st– Trust GOD.
- 2nd– Count your blessings.
- 3rd– Practice being content.
- 4th– Be thankful to the Father.
- 5th– Share with others.

Have a happily contented week!