

Godliness with Contentment - 1 Timothy 6:6-11
12-18-16AM

What is contentment? It might be described as satisfaction; it is not just happiness, but a pleasure in either the things or circumstances we are in. If someone is NOT content, they crave change or more; if they are content, adding more to them is irrelevant.

What do you think would make you content? A new home? A new job? A little more money? Better health? More free time? If the Bible is true, then it is the case that NONE of these things will bring you contentment. Contentment cannot exist if circumstances must change to have it. The problem for many people is that they seek after contentment when contentment is something purely within them. It is always tempting to think that others have it better than we do, and that if we just had "a little more" everything would be fine. But contentment cannot be achieved by increasing possessions. Nothing will ever be enough.

You must acknowledge that you can be content in any situation. More specifically, you must learn to be content. Philippians 4:11-12 *Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.* This statement means we can be content in any circumstance.

It is important to be content:

1. Being Content is a commandment from God - Hebrews 13:5
2. It reflects our hope – 1 Peter 3:15
3. It protects us from sin – Luke 3:14

You must avoid the contentment killers:

1. Selfishness inhibits contentment – James 3:14-18
2. You must learn NOT TO compare yourself to others – 1 Corinthians 12:15-18
3. Nursing a grudge prevents contentment – Hebrews 12:15, Luke 12:13
4. Worry – Matthew 6:25-32

Conclusions: God desires you to be content with what you have, but never with what you are. If God desires you to be content, why not be content? If you are the only thing preventing it, why not make the decision to pursue contentment?