

## Contentment is Found in Christ 2021-07-25

### Hebrews 13:5-6

*Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." 6 So we can confidently say,*

*"The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"*

World constantly seeks to make discontent. 70's 500-1,600 ads/day. 2021: 8-10,000

- Covet something we don't have because we think happiness is found in it.
  - Get what want but wears off and search for something else. Ecclesiastes 5:10
    - Constantly discontent, searching for thing finally fulfill/joy.
- A Christ-centered lifestyle free from love of money brings contentment. Hebrews 13:5a

Love of money is the essence of covetousness....exact opposite of contentment.

- It is not a sin to be wealthy nor is poverty necessarily a virtue.
  - possible to love money without having it and have it without loving it.
- Money is not the root of all evil but LOVE of money is the root of all evil. 1 Timothy 6:9-10, James 4:2
  - chokes spiritual life. (Mark 4:1-20), leads to other sins, brings destruction, never satisfies.

Only Jesus meets every need and satisfies every longing we have now and in the future.

- Longings: Significance, acceptance, security, peace, happiness, content.
- When contentment in Jesus decreases, covetousness increases. Matthew 6:24
  - We start crave other things to satisfy longings of heart.
    - trusting wealth not Jesus for present and future hopes/needs/security.
  - Settle for love of money instead of love of God.

Lord makes poor/rich so Christians' discontent really calls into question our heavenly Father's love/goodness. 1 Samuel 2:7, Numbers 11:4-6, Romans 8:32, 2 Peter 1:3a

- loving Father does not deny His children any good thing for life/godliness. 2 Corinthians 9:8,

Be content in God's love/goodness expressed in what provided by:

- Avoiding comparing self to others. different purposes for different people
- Being thankful, generous. Philippians 4:19, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-19
  - Love Jesus and use the world....not love the world and use Jesus to get what you want.
  - Live simply with less so can give away abundance to needy, work of Jesus Christ
- Nurturing biblical view of life, possessions, eternity. Colossians 3:2

- God owns all, we are simply stewards.

Be content based upon promises of God's presence/power. Hebrews 13:5-6

- Jesus is with you always and will meet every need and satisfy every longing.
- We are not guaranteed earthly possessions, we are guaranteed God is our helper.
  - No one can take Jesus or His riches in heaven from you. Puritan quote "All this and Jesus too!"

Contentment is more a matter of perspective than circumstances! Goat Philippians 4:11, Proverbs 13:7, 1 Timothy 6:6, 4:8

- Overwhelmed with how rich you are in Jesus Christ so care less about anything else.
  - If you have everything but not Jesus, you have nothing. If you have nothing but Jesus, you have everything.

A Christ-centered lifestyle free from love of money brings contentment.

- Trusts Jesus to meet every need and satisfy every longing.
  - Being content in whatever the Lord graciously provides says to world, "Jesus Christ is my treasure. With food/clothes, I'm good to go!"