

# Lesson 1: Discontentment

## Introduction:

- **"I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content" ~ Php. 4:11**
  - Murmuring and Complaining
  - Disunity, strife's
  - Covetousness
    - Always found wanting
  - Unpleased, unhappy
  - Disturbed and perturbed
  - Cursing others
  - Pursuit of gain (unfulfillment)
    - Eat, drink, and be merry
    - Money
      - Disrespect in superior estate, envious in inferior estate
    - Jobs
    - Houses
      - Possessions
    - Fame
      - Notoriety
- All these things signify not only sins implications, but the absence of the Christian virtue of "contentment". All these things prove satisfaction isn't found in that which the world offers, what can be had, or what one doesn't possess - rather satisfaction, contentment is found in Christ.
- In this series we will examine the scriptures to learn why we cannot find satisfaction in this world alone, yet when we find our satisfaction in Christ we can know how to view and use all things to His glory in and under godly contentment, even if we only possess that which we have in Christ alone!

## Preview:

- Brief groundwork of Biblical Contentment
  - Learning Contentment (Instructed)
  - In whatsoever state therewith
    - States and estates
    - Content therewith
- What does it mean to be "discontent"?

## Sermon:

**{Php 4:11-13} Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.**

- Speak of "learned", "instructed", "whatsoever state", "content/strength"

- **"Learned"** - To gain knowledge of; to acquire knowledge or ideas of something before unknown
  - "whatsoever state"
  - "every where and in all things"
  
- **"Instructed"** - taught, informed, trained up, educated
  - To teach; to inform the mind; to educate; to impart knowledge to one who was destitute of it
  
- **"therewith to be content"** - Literally, held, contained within limits; hence, quiet; not disturbed; having a mind at peace; easy; satisfied, so as not to repine, object, or oppose.
  - **"I can do all things"**
  - **"strength"**
    - **"through Christ"**
  - **Quiet spirit**
  
- **What is being "discontent"?**
  - Something we do not need to learn, something we do not need to be instructed in
  - We are strong or weak in being discontent
  - Discontentment is active
    - Lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, the pride of life
  - **Question?**
    - Psalm 42:5-6, 11
    - Psalm 43:5
      - Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why art thou disquieted within me?
  - Inward disposition rooted in that we are and what we do not possess though we may possess all earthly things and have all life's gain.
    - Sin/Death
      - Separated from God
        - Romans 3:9 - "under sin"
        - :16 - "destruction and misery are in their ways"
        - Romans 6:17 - "...servants of sin"
        - :20 - "for when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness"
        - :21 - "What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death."
    - **Ephesians 4:17**
    - Ignorance
      - Erroneous wisdom to fortify our pursuit

- **"vanity of their mind"**
- **"understanding darkened"**
  - **"alienated from the life of God"**
  - **"through ignorance"**
  - **"blindness of heart"**
- **"past feeling - given over to lasciviousness"**
  - Lustful
- Sins
  - The outworking of our endeavor to fill up that which God designed to fill with our sinful unsatisfied, ever-longing affections
  - **"to work all uncleanness with greediness"**
    - Romans 1
- Death
  - Ecclesiastes 1:1-11
    - Vanity of vanities
    - Sore travail
    - Vexation of spirit
  - You're going to have to die - never will possess full satisfaction
    - Value things of this life
    - Fight to the death for things they cannot enjoy
    - Labor for possessions, labor for money, but you could be struck ill
    - Prosperity to the prideful, poverty to the wise
    - Cannot take anything with you
      - 1 Timothy 6

**Conclusion:**

- Discontentment is the continuing and evolving disposition or frame of our soul by nature strengthened with the vanity of our understanding of the issues of life.
- Disappointment based upon your fleshly, earthly hope and trust
- Complaint because of our misplaced and low expectations
- Discontentment is the piercing of the sorrows of unrighteousness, ungodliness, uncertainty, hate, intolerance, impatience all governed by the temporary, by the power of death.
- Discontentment is the disquieted soul that looks for satisfaction apart from God and His sound provision to satisfy and content the soul.