

THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED

(Godly Wisdom – Our Compass at the Crossroads of Life)

Part 22 – Finding Inner Contentment

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1. Contentment is _____.

Ecclesiastes 1:8 (NLT), “Everything is wearisome beyond description. No matter how much we see, **we are never satisfied**. No matter how much we hear, **we are not content**.”

Ecclesiastes 6:9 (NLT), “9 **Enjoy what you have** rather than **desiring what you don’t have**. Just dreaming about nice things is meaningless—like **chasing the wind**.”

Proverbs 30:8-9 (NLT), “8 First, help me never to tell a lie. Second, **give me neither poverty nor riches!** Give me just enough to satisfy my needs. 9 For if I grow rich, I may deny you and say, “Who is the Lord?” And if I am too poor, I may steal and thus insult God’s holy name.”

2. _____ kills contentment.

Proverbs 14:30 (NIV), “A heart at peace gives life to the body, but **envy rots the bones**.”

Genesis 4:4-5 (NLT), “4 The Lord accepted Abel and his gift, 5 but he did not accept Cain and his gift. **This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected**.”

Exodus 20:17 (NIV), “**You shall not covet** your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male slave, or his female slave, or his ox, or his donkey, or **anything that belongs to your neighbor**.”

James 4:1-3 (NLT), “4 What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Don’t they come from the evil desires at war within you? 2 **You want what you don’t have**, so you scheme and kill to get it. **You are jealous of what others have**, but you can’t get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them. Yet you don’t have what you want because you don’t ask God for it. 3 And even when you ask, **you don’t get it because your motives are all wrong. You want only what will give you pleasure**.”

3. Contentment is _____.

Philippians 1:12 (NIV), “Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has **actually served to advance the gospel**.”

Philippians 1:13-14 (NIV), “**As a result**, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that **I am in chains for Christ**. 14) And **because of my chains**, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.”

4. Contentment is in _____ job.

Psalms 23:1 (NLT), “The Lord is my shepherd; **I have all that I need**.”

Philippians 4:11-13, “11 I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have **learned to be content whatever the circumstances**. 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the **secret of being content in any and every situation**, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 **I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength**.”

1 Timothy 6:6-8 (NLT), “6 Yet **true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth**. 7 After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can’t take anything with us when we leave it. 8 So if we have enough food and clothing, **let us be content**.”

5. Contentment comes from an eternal _____.

1 John 2:15-17 (NLT), “¹⁵ Do not love this world nor the things it **offers** you, for when you love the world, you do **not** have the love of the Father in you. ¹⁶For the world offers only a **craving** for **physical** pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and **pride** in our **achievements** and **possessions**. These are **not** from the Father but are from this world. ¹⁷And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But **anyone who does what pleases God will live forever**.”

Hebrews 11:10 & 16(NLT), “¹⁰ Abraham was **confidently looking forward to a city with eternal foundations**, a city designed and built by God. ¹⁶They were looking for a **better place**, a **heavenly homeland**. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, for **he has prepared a city for them**.”

Philippians 3:20 (NLT), “²⁰ But **we are citizens of heaven**, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are **eagerly waiting for him to return** as our Savior.”