

**THANKSGIVING:
THE ART OF
CONTENTMENT**

1 TIMOTHY 6:3-12

1 Timothy 6:3-12

3 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness;

4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings,

5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.

6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.

1 Timothy 6:3-12 - continued

7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

1 Timothy 6:3-12 - continued

11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

Introduction

A. Ways people seek contentment

1. Through self

2. Through the Savior

Romans 5:1

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Introduction

B. A thankful heart is the key to contentment

1. Expected by God

Colossians 3:15

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

2. Extinguished by the ungodly

Romans 1:21

Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.



I. Thankful People Rejoice In What They Have

Hebrews 13:5

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

I. Thankful People Rejoice In What They Have

**A. Paul was content because he was continually thankful
Philippians 4:11-13**

11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

12 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.

13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

I. Thankful People Rejoice In What They Have

B. Thankful people recognize the temporal nature of all earthly things

Job 1:21-22

21 And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.

22 In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.

II. Thankful People Refuse To Be Ruled By What They Don't Have

A. The desire to be rich rules many people (v 9)

James 1:13-16

13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

16 Do not err, my beloved brethren.

II. Thankful People Refuse To Be Ruled By What They Don't Have

B. The love of money is the root of all evil (v 10)

1. Bondage to the love of money cost the rich young ruler his soul

Luke 18:23-24

23 And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich.

24 And when Jesus saw that he was very sorrowful, he said, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!

II. Thankful People Refuse To Be Ruled By What They Don't Have

B. The love of money is the root of all evil (v 10)

2. Breaking free from the love of money brought salvation for Zacchaeus

Luke 19:8-9

8 And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord: Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.

9 And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham.

II. Thankful People Refuse To Be Ruled By What They Don't Have

C. Chasing dreams of money and possessions is costly

1. Wasted effort

Proverbs 23:4-5

4 Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom.

5 Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven.

II. Thankful People Refuse To Be Ruled By What They Don't Have

C. Chasing dreams of money and possessions is costly
1. Wasted effort - continued

Matthew 6:19-20

19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

II. Thankful People Refuse To Be Ruled By What They Don't Have

**C. Chasing dreams of money and possessions is costly
(continued)**

2. Wasted eternity

Luke 9:25

For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away?

III. Thankful People Recognize God Gives Us All We Have

A. Godliness and contentment go together (v 6)

2 Corinthians 9:8

**And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you;
that ye, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may
abound to every good work:**

III. Thankful People Recognize God Gives Us All We Have

B. Contentment comes from knowing and serving Christ

1 Timothy 1:14-15

14 And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

III. Thankful People Recognize God Gives Us All We Have

**C. Everything we have is from our loving Savior's hand
James 1:17**

**Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and
cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no
variableness, neither shadow of turning.**

Are You A Contented Christian?

Psalm 100-3-5

3 Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

5 For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.