



I. What Is Contentment?

- Externally: having enough of everything. Lk.3:...14
- Internally: satisfied; happy w. what one has

The problem:

Genesis 3
Paradise

2 Sm.12
Ruler

2 Kings 5
Miracles



I. What Is Contentment?

II. Contentment Is Not...

1. Anxiety, Mt.6:25-34

In anxious times, seek Him
In quiet times, worship Him
In painful times, trust Him
At all times, thank Him

■ Lk.15

**Greener pastures or
greater problems?**

2. Covetousness (greedy desire for more)

- 1 Tim.6:5-10
 - False gain, 5
 - True gain, 6
 - 7: reason 1
 - 8: reason 2
 - Gn.28:20, enough is enough!

Job 1:21;
Ec.5:15-16

We can eat only so much; wear only
so much; sleep . . . spend . . .

Esau, Gn.33
"I have enough"

Moses, Ex.2
Prince, learning

Woman, 2 K.4
A satisfied mind

Prophet, Hab.3
Reality check

2. Covetousness (greedy desire for more)

- 1 Tim.6:5-10
 - False gain, 5
 - True gain, 6
 - 7: reason 1
 - 8: reason 2
 - Painful gain, 9-10

Lot, Gn.13-19

His strife

His life

His wife

Solomon, 1 K.10

Queen of Sheba

Success, 14-21, 27

Rest of story: Ec.2

2. Covetousness (greedy desire for)

**Cravings replace
contentment
with sorrows**

- 1 Tim.6:5-10
 - False gain, 5
 - True gain, 6
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Lot, Gn.13-19

His strife

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Solomon, 1 K.10

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Success, 14-21, 27

Rest of story: Ec.2

- 1 Tim.6:5-10
- Hb.13:5-6 –
 - 5, *Conduct*: w/o covetousness
 - Life reveals character
 - 6, *Courage*: confidence in Lord

“Those who want much are
always much in need” – Horace

1. Anxiety
2. Covetousness

3. Indifference

- Some just don't care; apathetic

**Be content with what you have,
never with what you are**

4. Stoicism

- Self-sufficient, 2 Co.3:5



I. What Is Contentment?

II. Contentment Is Not...

III. Contentment Is Learned (Ph.4)

Doesn't depend on
circumstances, Ph.4:10. Col.4:8

■ Circumstances affect us

Healthy
or sick

Free or
bound

Needy (11)
or gifted (17)

■ Paul was content in every
circumstance

□ *I have learned, 11*

□ *I have learned the secret, 12*

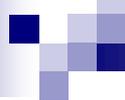
Learned *to be content* (11)

- Word rescued from Stoics: “restful contentment”
 - Hope in God, not goods; no despair in hardship, no boasting in abundance
 - Joseph, Gn.39:9; 40:8...
 - Paul

Rejected by
family, Ph.3

Envied by
Chr's., Ph.1

Persecuted by
Jews, Ph.3

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- Some can't enjoy what they have for craving what they don't have

“True contentment depends not upon what we have; a tub was large enough for Diogenes; but a world was too little for Alexander”

Based on trust, Ph.4:13

- Sufficiency in Christ, not self, when...
 - Philippians could not help him (10)
 - Hungry (12)
 - Others forgot him (15)
- Trust in Lord kept him contented

Ph.4:13 & 19

All things of personal experience
matches *every need* that might come

And my God shall **supply** all your need
according to His **riches** **in glory** by
Christ Jesus – Ph.4:19

**“Content makes poor men rich;
discontent makes rich men poor”**

–B. Franklin

Ph.4:13 & 19

All things shall be accomplished in your experience
and my God shall supply all your need
according to His riches in glory by
Christ Jesus – Ph.4:19

Resources that reside in
glory of His manifested
power and love

And my God shall supply all your need
according to His riches in glory by
Christ Jesus – Ph.4:19

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May God give you enough...
happiness to keep you sweet
trials to keep you strong
sorrows to keep you humble
hope to keep you active
failure to keep you dependent
success to keep you eager
friends to give you comfort
determination to make each day
better than the last