



Contentment is not found  
in having everything,  
but in being satisfied with  
everything we have!

I have learned to be content in  
whatever the circumstances.

*Phi 4:11 (NIV)*

And having food and raiment let  
us be therewith content.

*1 Tim 6:8 (KJV)*

Make sure that your character is free from the love  
of money, being content with what you have...

*Heb 13:5 (NASB)*

But godliness actually is a means of great gain  
when accompanied by contentment.

*1 Tim 6:6 (NASB)*

### **1-The Enemy of Contentment**

One of the great enemies of contentment is our  
desire to control our environment and determine  
the results of our endeavors.

### **2-Change My Heart**

Instead of asking the Lord to change our  
circumstances to suit us, we can ask Him to  
use our circumstances to change us.

*Kenneth Boa*

### **3-A Life Spent**

The first half of our life we spend our health  
getting wealth and the second half we spend  
our wealth on our health.

### **4-The Start of Rebellion**

Rebellion against God does not begin  
with the clenched fist of atheism but with  
the self-satisfied heart of the one for  
whom 'thank you' is redundant."

*Os Guinness*

### **5-True Satisfaction**

If we are not satisfied with what we have we will  
never be satisfied with what we want.

# The Warrior's Heart A Heart of Contentment

## Introduction Don't Lose Heart

*Paul: An example of the warrior's heart...*

*2 Cor 11:24-28; 2 Cor 4:8-9;*

*2 Cor 4:1; Phil 4:11-13*

## A. What is Contentment?

*Contentment is to be satisfied... 2 Cor 12:9*

*Key passages...*

## B. How Do I Develop a Heart of Contentment?

### **1. Receive each day as from the hand of God.**

*Psa 118:24; Lam 3:33-23*

Instead of viewing God's character in light of our  
circumstances, we should view our circumstances in light  
of God's character.

### **2. Cultivate a heart of gratitude.**

*Luke 17:17-18; Hos 13:6*

*The ten lepers...*

*The Jewish feasts...*

*Pride: I did it — Gratitude: God did it*

### **3. Let Christ be your contentment**

When we let Christ determine the content (noun)  
of our life we will find true contentment.

*Four things that will kill contentment..*

Comparison *2 Cor 10:12*

*The need to measure success...*

Covetousness

*Instead of loving my neighbor I love  
what my neighbor has...*

Competitiveness

*To prove my capability..*

Compromise

*Wanting something bad enough to set  
aside our convictions to get it...*

***Our sufficiency is of God!***

*2Co 3:5*

## Sermon Notes Pastor Mike Bayer

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## Warrior's Heart: Contentment

### Introduction/Review

### Prayer – Obedience – Patience -- Contentment

*My heart must be given to all four!*

As I give my heart to prayer – I become more obedient

As I give my heart to obedience – I am able to endure trials

As I give my heart to patience – I enter into contentment

As I give my heart to contentment – my prayer life becomes powerful

Why—because I am now living at the center of God's will!

### Paul – the model for believer's warfare:

2Co 11:24-28 Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep. I have been on frequent journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from my countrymen, dangers from the Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers on the sea, dangers among false brethren; I have been in labor and hardship, through many sleepless nights, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. Apart from such external things, there is the daily pressure on me of concern for all the churches.

2Co 4:8-9 We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;

### Yet Paul said I DO NOT LOSE HEART-----And neither should we

2Co 4:1 Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we received mercy, **we do not lose heart,**

2Co 4:16-18 Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

## **This is why Paul could make the great statement about contentment**

Writing from prison....

Phi 4:11 I am not saying this because I am in any need, for I have learned to be content in whatever situation I am in. :12 I know how to be humble, and I know how to prosper. In each and every situation I have learned the secret of being full and of going hungry, of having too much and of having too little. :13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

### **A. What is contentment?**

The word contentment means to be satisfied. It is the Greek word suffice or sufficient; “My grace is sufficient for thee...” 2 Cor 12:9

Notice that the word content is the same as con-tent (that which is inside of something)—the contents of my mind, or wallet.

Key Passages:

I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content in whatever the circumstances. *Phi 4:11 (NIV)*

And having food and raiment let us be therewith content! *1 Tim 6:8 (KJV)*

Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have...*Heb 13:5 (NASB)*

But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment.  
*1 Tim 6:6 (NASB)*

### **B. How do I develop a heart of contentment?**

#### **1. Receive each day and what ever it brings as from the hand of God.**

Psa 118:24 This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Lam 3:22-23 The LORD'S lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.

Instead of viewing God's character in light of our circumstances—we should view our circumstances in light of God's character.

**(2) Change My Heart** Instead of asking the Lord to change our circumstances to suit us, we can ask Him to use our circumstances to change us. *Kenneth Boa*

Lesson on patience/endurance—the leaning wall—trained by our trials.

The daily experience – if I am discontent with God has given me, will never be able to be content with what I can earn, steal, win or get on my own.

## **2. Cultivate a heart of gratitude**

The example of the 10 lepers

Luk 17:17-18 Then Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine--where are they? "Was no one found who returned to give glory to God, except this foreigner?"

A young man with a bandaged hand approached the clerk at the post office. "Sir, could you please address this post card for me?" The clerk did so gladly, and then agreed to write a message on the card.

He then asked, "Is there anything else I can do for you?" The young man looked at the card for a moment and then said, "Yes, add a PS: 'Please excuse the handwriting.'"

Example of the Jewish feasts: to remind the people of God's acts of deliverance and provision so they could renew their sense of gratitude and dependence on God.

Yet they forgot anyway... Hos 13:6 As they had their pasture, they became satisfied, And being satisfied, their heart became proud; Therefore they forgot Me.

**Pride:** I did it

**Gratitude:** God did it

## **3. Let Christ determine the content (noun) of your life and you will find contentment.**

Four contentment killers:

**Comparison:** When we control the content (noun) [the money, position, family, etc.] we will also need to find a criteria to determine or measure what it should look like.

The Apostil Paul remarked about him self and other teachers: **Co 10:12 (NKJ)**  
*For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.*

Comparison leads to covetousness  
....there will ALWAYS be people with MORE!

**Covetousness:** Instead of loving my neighbor I start loving what he/she has.

The Apostil Paul's contentment was grounded not in how much he had but in the One who had him.

Covetousness leads to competitiveness  
...to do better than my neighbor

**Competitiveness:** This is competitiveness in the shadow of discontent! We tend to use this type of competition as a vehicle to authenticate our identity or prove our capability.

This kind of competitiveness tempts us to compromise.....

**Compromise:** When we want something bad enough—we are often willing to compromise our compromise our character and set aside our convictions to get it.

The more we release temporal possessions, the more we can grasp eternal treasures. There are times when God may take away our toys to force us to transfer our affections to Christ and His character.

End points:

### **The Secret of Contentment**

It is only when we allow Christ to determine the content of our lives that we can discover the secret of contentment. Instead of comparing ourselves with others, we must realize that the Lord alone knows what is best for us and loves us enough to use our present circumstances to accomplish eternal good.

**Contentment is not found in having everything, but in being satisfied with everything we have.**

A biblical understanding of contentment leads to a sense of our competency in Christ.

"Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God" (2 Corinthians 3:5).

**Contentment is not the fulfillment of what we want,  
but the realization of how much we already possess in Christ.**