



Contentment is defined as being in a state of peace, happiness and satisfaction with our situation in life.

Unfortunately, our world does all it can to put in our hearts a state of restlessness, so as to draw us to their ideologies and produce in us a desire to always obtain more, seek new ventures, pursue riches, fame and pleasure. Yet, when all is said and done, people find themselves empty and deceived.

Paul related in 2 Cor 12:9 what the Lord had said to him on this: "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Paul then declared, "Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

Then in Philip 3:8 he added, "Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ."

How are we then to face life's challenges and trials?

2Cor 12:10: "For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

In other words, our sufficiency must be in Christ if we call Him Lord over our life. How is that working for us right now?

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CHRIST... OUR STRENGTH!



As born again believers, our mission is to follow Christ as Lord over our life. Therefore, we live and trust God to empower us, as Hab 3:19 declares, “The LORD God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer’s feet, and He will make me walk on my high hills.”

In essence, we find our strength in God, the reason Philip 4:13 says, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

Why should we trust God?

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

1Tim 6:6-8: “Now godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into *this* world, *and it is* certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.”

Rom 14:17: “For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.”

If we do follow Christ, what happens?

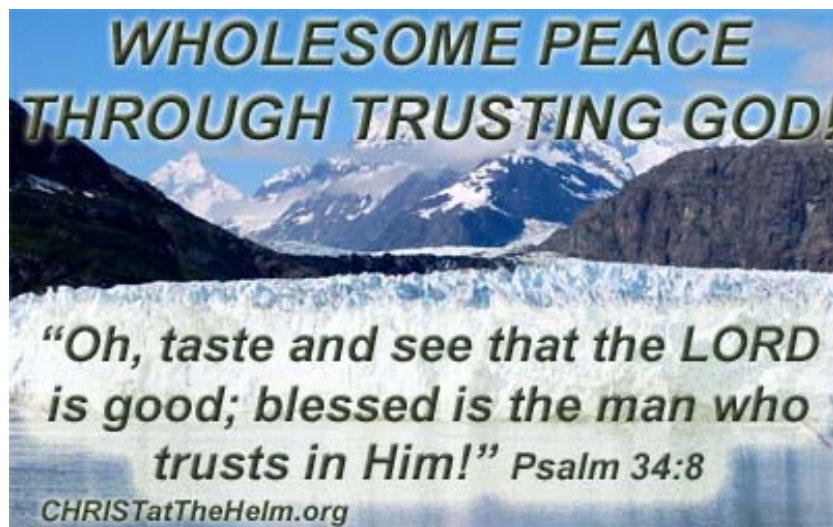
Mat 5:6: “Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.”

How do we know if we follow Christ?

Mat 6:21: “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” In other words, if we pursue the world’s pleasures, that’s where our heart is, and we can’t serve God and the world. It’s either one or the other.

Where do we stand right now?

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When all is said and done, can we find true joy and peace, or even add a single hour to our lives in seeking the pleasures of this world?

Is 26:3 tells us, “You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You. Because he trusts in You.”

On this, Jesus said in Mat 6:25, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?” Then in verse 33 He added, “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”

In truth, trusting God is the answer to contentment, and our attitude should be to trust Him in all aspects of life.

What happens when we do trust God?

2Cor 9:8: “God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may have an abundance for every good work.”

Notice the purpose of this abundance being to be, “for every good work,” and not to pursue the world’s fleeting pleasures.

James 2:5 says, “Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the Kingdom He promised those who love Him?”

How faithful and content are we to trust God?

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How can we live each day in peace, being content and trusting the Lord?

Pro 3:5-6: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

Rom 12:2: "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Heb 13:5: "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for He has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

Mat 6:20: "Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal."

1Tim 6:17-19 adds, "Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. *Let them* do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life."

Finally, 1Tim 6:12: "Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and *for which* you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses."

Will we trust God?

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FAITHFUL & CONTENT WITH GOD'S PROVISION



Our world consistently brings temptations and traps to draw us away from God. The following scriptures warn us against them:

1Tim 6:9-10: "Those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is a root of all *kinds of* evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Mark 10:23: "Then Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!"

James 4:1-2: "Where do wars and fights *come* from among you? Do *they not come* from your *desires for* pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war."

Mat 6:19: "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal."

Luke 12:15: "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses."

Pro 28:20: "A faithful man will abound with blessings, but he who hastens to be rich will not go unpunished."

Is our trust in God, or is it in money and possessions?

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