

# Principle of Contentment

1. Contentment requires us to accept God's provision
  - A. We are to be content with what we have – Hebrews 13:5 (1171)
  - B. Paul's example of contentment – Philippians 4:11-13, 19 (1141)
    - 1) Contentment is not linked to how much we have – vs. 11-12
    - 2) Nothing is beyond our reach because of Him who gives us strength – vs. 13
      - a. Contentment is not lack of ambition
      - b. Contentment is not laziness
    - 3) Contentment relies on God to supply our needs – vs. 19
  - C. Contentment gives us a godly perspective – 1 Timothy 6:6-8 (1154)
    - 1) Godliness and contentment are important
      - a. Lack of contentment robs us of the joy we would otherwise find in God's provision
      - b. Lack of contentment leads to rejecting God's provision by using our own means to get what we want
    - 2) Material things are temporary
    - 3) God provides our necessities
2. Greed is rejecting God's provision by using our own means to get what we want
  - A. Greed begins with the love of money – Hebrews 13:5 (1171)
  - B. Greed begins with a lack of contentment and ends in destruction – 1 Timothy 6:9-10 (1154)
    - 1) Greed begins with a desire to be rich
    - 2) We then wander from our faith as the love of money becomes our core value – vs. 10
    - 3) This leads to all kinds of temptations – See also Proverbs 28:25 (643)
    - 4) Temptations ensnare us and lead to destruction
3. Contentment and reliance on God's provision is the key to a balanced view of material things
  - A. We are to distinguish between those things that are earthly and temporary and those things that are heavenly and permanent – Matthew 6:19-20 (938)
  - B. We are not to worry about material provisions – Matthew 6:25-26
  - C. Worry accomplishes nothing – Matthew 6:28-32 (939)
  - D. Seek God's kingdom and He will provide our needs – Matthew 6:33
  - E. God promises to never leave us – Hebrews 13:5 (1171)