

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: The Land of More

PASSAGE: Proverbs 30:15-16

DATE: November 29, 2020

“Everything in our society is geared to make you unhappy with your current circumstances: your job, your wardrobe, your car, your house, your wife, the place you live, whatever it might be. Everything in the advertising world is designed to breed discontent. To make you unhappy with what you have.”

- John Maxwell

I. Discontentment springs from unmet expectations.

II. Discontentment is an expression of pride, demanding God prove He is good.

- “...angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day.” - Jude 6
- “The devil is the proudest creature and the most discontented because pride and discontent lodge under one roof.” - Thomas Boston

III. Discontentment is rooted in the "someday mentality of life".

IV. Discontentment is disordered doxology.

- ““Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship. The compelling reason for maybe choosing some sort of God or spiritual-type thing to worship is that pretty much anything else you worship will eat you alive. If you worship money and things, if they are where you tap real meaning in life, then you will never feel you have enough. Worship your body and beauty and sexual allure and you will always feel ugly, and when time and age start showing, you will die a million deaths before they finally grieve you. Worship power, and you will end up feeling weak and afraid, and you will need ever more power over others to numb you to your own fear. Worship your intellect, and you will end up feeling like a fraud, always on the verge of being found out. But the insidious thing about these forms of worship is they're unconscious. They are default settings.” - David Foster Wallace

Tests of Contentment

1. Am I complaining?
2. Am I worrying?
3. Am I living with an "if only" mentality?
4. Are my desires restless?

Benediction:

"And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.²⁰ To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen."
– Philippians 4:19-20

Reflection Questions:

1. How has the culture around us (the "Land of More") impacted your pursuit and experience of Christian contentment?
2. Out of the four descriptions of discontentment, which one was most helpful and why?
3. What are the spiritual dangers of living with perpetual discontentment for Christians?
4. Among the four tests of contentment, which one was most convicting and why?

----- **Small Group Sermon Discussion Guide** -----