

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: The Learned Secret

PASSAGE: Philippians 4:11-13,19

DATE: December 6, 2020

Four Myths of Contentment

- I. Contentment is circumstantial.**
- II. Contentment is the absence of hardship**
- III. Contentment is suppressing desires**
- IV. Contentment is primarily about owning less**

Definition: Christian contentment is experiencing joy in God in all circumstances by yielding to His providential and wise plan for my life

"Christian contentment is that sweet, inward, quiet, gracious frame of spirit, which freely submits to and delights in God's wise and fatherly disposal in every condition." - Jeremiah Burroughs, *The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment*

Four Descriptions of Contentment

- I. Contentment must be learned (vs. 11)**
- II. Contentment is rooted in the sufficiency of Christ (vs. 13)**

"My brethren, the reason why you do not have contentment in the things of the world is not that you do not have enough of them. The reason is that they are not things proportional to that immortal soul of yours that is capable of God Himself." - Jeremiah Burroughs, *The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment*

- III. Contentment distinguishes needs from wants (v. 12, 19)**
- IV. Contentment is a fruit of godliness (1 Timothy 6:6-8)**

"...godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that" - 1 Tim. 6:6-8

Benediction:

"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." So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?" – Hebrews 13:5-7

Reflection/Discussion Questions:

1. Does contentment feel like a mirage in your life? Why or why not?
2. Which of the four myths of contentment do you find yourself believing?
3. Which of four descriptions of contentment was most meaningful to you and why?

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