

Are You Content With What You Have?

“Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee”, Hebrews 13:5.

If I ask people who say that they are Christians, “Are you content with your Christian life?”, the general answer is “I suppose so”.

Friend, walk with me through three points in the above Scripture.

‘Let your conversation be without covetousness’. With regard to their answer to the question above, I would ask but three questions,

1. Why do you praise God for everything He has given you,
2. Why do they also add ‘He has got another new car’. She has just had her kitchen remodelled again’. That family are going on another luxury cruise’.
3. How can anyone claim to be content with what they have, and add an extended list of covetousness?

‘...be content with such things as ye have...’ How are you going to react when I tell you that the Bible declares you are to GLORY in tribulation? Romans 5:3.

Jesus had already forewarned His Disciples that there would be persecution

“If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.

If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.

But all these things will they do unto you for my name’s sake, because they know not him that sent me”, John 15:18–21.

The Lord does not give a command for people to persevere during persecution, but He certainly advocates perseverance through the command “Follow Me”.

Paul, in Romans 5:3, perceives that God wants to give us gifts through persecution, hey we should have an even greater contentment!

Patience. Learning to walk with God, not race ahead so that He cannot

reach forward to give us the Gift. Nor dawdling behind that we cannot hear the instruction He is giving to us.

It is a fact that if we are prepared to be content with what we immediately have, the level of contentment in our lives will only rise rapidly as God brings forth His Gifts.

Experience. The experience of finding out that God's timing is perfect. Consider a young guy called Joseph. He was the apple of his father's eye. Sent by his father to his brothers with a cache of goodies, they threw him into a pit. They then had the chance to make a few dollars, and sold him into slavery.

God looked at Joseph, and saw that he needed a little more experience. His Master's wife lied about Joseph, and Joseph once again found himself in a dungeon.

His 'pit experiences' had taken Joseph down, down, and further down. But Joseph was now useable by God, and in just two steps – his release from prison, and then installed as the second in command of the nation – Joseph was where God wanted him, and those, his brothers, who had abused him, had to front up to him to receive a blessing from the one they had abused.

Hope. His hope of hearing about his father was shattered by the gift God had for him. His father was brought to him, and given some of the best pasture land in the realm for their flocks, that the family could be as one.

At this point I see two reasons why God would say, '...I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee'.

1. Why would Jesus leave us at a time of persecution? He had purchased us with His Life.
2. Friend, Jesus wants to be there with us when the Gifts of God are given to those who seek to receive the Gift.

His joy will know no bounds when He sees our contentment expanding beyond just being content.