

Contentment is the Key I Tim. 6:6-8

The great value of being content: 6:6

- *Godliness* is a theme in I Timothy: 2:2, 3:16, 4:7,8, 6:5,6,11.
- Note contrast (*but*): godliness is *great gain* (big profit), recall 4:8. Here its value is heightened even more when linked with contentment.
- Don't confuse contentment with being complacent or stoic!
- The ancient stoics championed contentment as well, but it was based on self-sufficiency vs. sufficiency in Christ, Phil. 4:11-13, II Cor. 12:10.

The reason to become content: 6:7

- In 4:8 godliness was compared to physical exercise; here it's coupled with contentment; both times the rationale is an eternal perspective.
- This proverbial statement is common knowledge, Job 1:21, Ecc. 5:15.

The command to be content: 6:8

- *Food and covering* (covering = clothing but can include shelter too)
- *Shall be content* is future tense but is really a command as in Lk. 4:8.
- NT emphasis is not on desiring more possessions or riches but being content with what one has, Matt. 6:25-33, Phil. 4:11-13, Heb. 13:5.

Q: How can I become a more content person?

