

# GREAT GAIN

**I Timothy 6:3-10** – “If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, <sup>4</sup>he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, <sup>5</sup>useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself. <sup>6</sup>Now godliness with contentment is great gain. <sup>7</sup>For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. <sup>8</sup>And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. <sup>9</sup>But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. <sup>10</sup>For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

## GODLINESS + CONTENTMENT = GREAT GAIN

**Great** – MEGA.

**Gain** – acquisition, means of getting (procurement).

**Matthew 6:33** – *But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*

### **Godliness.**

“**godliness**” – reverence, respect and piety toward God. [God – likeness] a Godward attitude, does that which is well-pleasing to Him.

- A godly person has the right attitude toward God and conducts his life by that attitude.
- **II Peter 1:2-4** – “Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, <sup>3</sup>as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, <sup>4</sup>by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

## **Contentment.**

**“contentment”** – a perfect condition of life in which no aid or support is needed; independent of external circumstances; self-sufficient; not needing more to be happy and joyful. [Discontent – a restless craving for what one does not have]

- **[AMP]** – “...a sense of inward sufficiency...” (No panic!)]
- **II Corinthians 9:8** – “And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all **sufficiency** in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.” **[AMP]** – “And God is able to make all grace – every favor and earthly blessing – come to you in abundance, so that you may always and under all circumstances and whatever the need, be self-sufficient – possessing enough to require no aid or support and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation.” (“If I don’t have it, I can get it.”)]
- **Philippians 4:11-13** – “Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: <sup>12</sup>I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. <sup>13</sup>I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”
  - **[AMP [vs. 11b, 12]** – “...for I have learned how to be **content** (satisfied to the point where I am not disturbed or disquieted) in whatever state I am. <sup>12</sup>I know how to be abased and live humbly in straitened circumstances and I know also how to enjoy plenty and live in abundance. I have learned in any and all circumstances, **the secret** of facing every situation, whether well-fed or going hungry, having a sufficiency and to spare, or going without and being in want.”
  - **What is the secret that Paul learned? Vs. 13 [AMP]** – “I have strength for all things in Christ who empowers me – I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him who infuses inner strength into me, that is, I am self sufficient in Christ’s sufficiency.”