

Contentment > 1 Timothy 6:3-10

6:3-5 False teaching is not holding to the words and pattern of Jesus. To deviate from what our Savior said leads to all kinds of sin: a craving for controversy and quarreling, attitudes filled with envy, slander, and suspicion. All of this leads to constant friction rather than love and unity. Paul's real-life example of this kind of trajectory consists of the wrong motives of the false teachers, who think that religion is a means for earthly gain.

6:6-10 Instead, there is great gain in the faith; it comes not in earthly terms (money, power, status), but instead in the contentment of knowing that we are cared for by our Lord and secure in eternity through His blood. This kind of contentment is greater than anything money can buy or that the things of the world can offer.

Context: Just as Paul began in this letter, so here near the end he returns once more to what the false teachers in Ephesus were promoting.

Aim: The people of God must see that the "gain" offered by the false teachers is empty and tragic. The eternal "gain" given to those who rest in Christ is a blessing to be enjoyed.

Gospel: Jesus perfectly showed us that identity rooted in the Lord is worth more than all the riches of the world. We can have contentment in Him because He cares for us, is preparing a place for us, and will return for His people.

Applications: Where is your treasure? Is it here on earth? Or do you take joy and contentment that you are found in Jesus? How can you help others have that same kind of trust?

Here is how I will apply these truths: _____
