CONTENTMENT 1 Timothy 6:3-10

INTRODUCTION:

A. Many are searching for happiness. They say, "I'll be happy when....", etc..
   Benjamin Franklin - "Contentment makes the poor man rich; discontent makes the rich man poor."
B. Perhaps one reason so few find happiness or contentment is that they are looking in the wrong place.
   "We think we don't make enough; it's not that we don't make enough, it's that we want too much."

Five detrimental effects of "wanting more"

1. Wanting more brings fatigue - Proverbs 23:4-5
2. " brings more expense - Ecc 5.11-12
3. " brings more anxiety - Ecc 5.12-17 (insomnia increases with income???)
4. " brings more conflict - Prov 15.27 ("number one cause for divorce is money") 1 Tim 6.9-10
5. " brings more dissatisfaction - Ecc 5.10

C. Today we will study contentment, godliness with contentment; and the faithfulness of God.

I. CONTENTMENT

A. Not found in things. Luke 12:15
   1. We brought nothing in. I Timothy 6:7-8
B. Because we trust in God. Hebrews 13:5-6
   1. And not in riches. 1 Tim. 6:17-19; Luke 12:20-21
C. Can be learned. Phil. 4:11-13
D. Involves prayer and peace. Phil. 4:6-7

II. GODLINESS WITH CONTENTMENT

A. Godliness refers to "piety" - "characterized by a God-ward attitude" - Vine
B. Is great gain. I Timothy 6:6
C. Comes from exercise. I Timothy 4:7-8 (and pursuit, 1 Tim 6.11)
D. From knowledge of God. 2 Peter 1:3
E. We must live in godliness. 2 Peter 3:11

III. WHY CAN WE BE CONTENT IN GODLINESS?

A. God has promised. Hebrews 13:5-6
B. Our life is hid with Christ. Colossians 3:1-3
C. God gives peace. Isaiah 26:3-4
D. He renews our strength. Isaiah 40:28-31
E. "I am with thee." Isaiah 41:10
F. "I know whom I have believed." 2 Tim. 1:12

CONCLUSION:

A. Obviously contentment is not dependent upon what you possess. It comes from within you.

B. Real contentment cannot be possessed without such a faith in God that no matter what trials and problems come, you cannot be shaken from your faith.