

Learning JOY of Contentment

Series: Rich Toward God

Tony Thornton, Minister

June 27, 2021

Sermon Series: Being Rich Toward God comes to an end. Let's revisit the parable we started with to pick up on one last critical dimension to being Rich Toward God. Just prior to telling this parable Jesus makes a profound statement:

"...life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." Luke 12:15b

Facts about Life in America:

	<u>1960:</u>	<u>Today:</u>
Square footage of houses:	_____	_____
Size of Average household	_____	_____
Households using Self-Storage	_____	_____

1. We GAIN when we don't confuse _____ with Godliness.

"If anyone teaches otherwise and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, ⁴they are conceited and understand nothing. They have an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions ⁵and constant friction between people of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and **who think that godliness is a means to financial gain.**

⁶But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. ⁹Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs."

1 Timothy 6:3-10

2. We GAIN when we learn and experience the _____ of Contentment.

"I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. ¹¹I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹²I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have **learned the secret of being content in any and every situation**, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³**I can do all this** through him who gives me strength."

Philippians 4:10-13

3. We GAIN when we choose not to _____ our lives/souls.

"Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. ²⁴For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. ²⁵What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self?" Luke 9:23-25

Conclusion:

Bible says so much about Material things!

How do you decide when you have enough?

All Scriptures are from the New International Version Bible unless otherwise mentioned. You may make comments or ask Bro. Tony questions about this message by email at: brotony@itawambachristianchurch.org