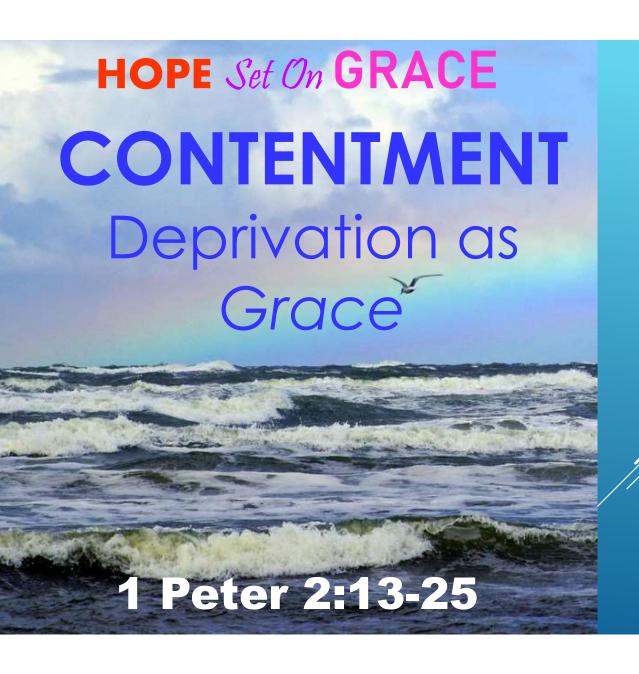
Monthly Focus Verse

1 Peter 1:22 (ESV)

Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,





Lesson Eight:

CONTENTMENT

Deprivation as Grace

1 Peter 2:13-25

¹³Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution,[b] whether it be to the emperor[c] as supreme, ¹⁴or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. ¹⁵For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. ¹⁶Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants[d] of God. ¹⁷Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor. - 1 Peter 2:13-17

¹⁸Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. ¹⁹For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a **gracious** thing in the sight of God.

- 1 Peter 2:18-20

Besides subjecting ourselves to government, what else is required in order to "honor" those in authority?

Not grumbling or complaining
Speak with respect that their office deserves
Don't cheat on taxes
Pray for them even/especially when you don't agree with them
Follow leadership

How is being "graciously" subject to an employer, different from just being subject to an employer?

- Give benefit of the doubt
 - Pray for them
 - Being faithful to do a good job (make them look good)
 - Be the one not complaining and grumbling
 - Work the full time, even when from home
 - Not carry forward others' complaining
 - Being grateful to God for having a job

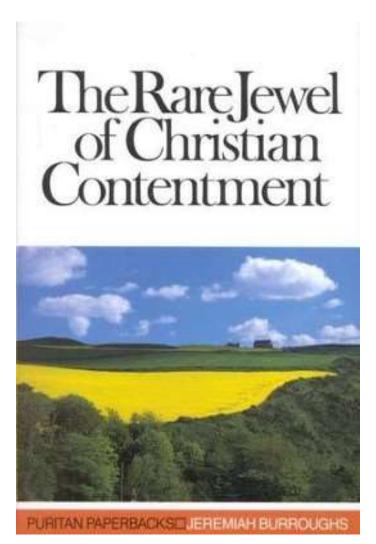
Consider their needs/problems/issue

What is "contentment" for a follower of Christ?

- Accepting the situtation as God's will
 - Being gratefully satisfied

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Trusting that God knows what is best and what He allows He is good God will provide when its time That's where trusting comes in Being joy-filled



Download PDF:

https://www.monergism.com/thethreshold/sdg/burro ughs/JewelofContentmentJeremiahBurroughs.pdf Audio on YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H_VSoTP4Snc



- Coveting (Unholy Discontentment)
 - -Garden of Eden / Cain and Abel / Lot's wife / etc.
 - Murmuring, fretting, dissension-sowing, discouraging others, shirking responsibilities and duties, being "angry" at God
 - Externally affected (what about ME?), versus disposition of the heart
 - -Easily triggered despite general demeanor

- Holy Discontentment
 - -Waging war against sin

- Holy Discontentment
 - Waging war against sin
 - Desiring the righteousness that comes through Christ: Philippians 3:8-9

⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a **righteousness** of my own that comes from the law, **but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—**.

-- Philippians 3:8-9

²⁵Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.

-- Psalm 47:4

- Godly Contentment (1 Timothy 6:6)
 - -But godliness with contentment is great gain.
 - -"I have learned" Philippians 4:11-13

¹¹Not that I am speaking of being in need, **for I have learned** in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹²I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, **I have learned** the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

-- Philippians 4:11-13

- Godly Contentment (1 Timothy 6:6)
 - -But godliness with contentment is great gain.
 - -"I have learned" Philippians 4:11-13
 - -"Having nothing." 2 Corinthians 6:3-10

8through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; 9as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; 10as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

-- 2 Corinthians 6:8-10



- Re-thinking Contentment
 - -Measure twice, complain once. Eph. 1:3

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,

-- Ephesians 1:3

³Among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

-- Ephesians 2:3

- Re-thinking Contentment
 - -Measure twice, complain once. Eph. 1:3
 - -Past blessings. Job 1:21

²¹And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

-- Job 1:21

- Re-thinking Contentment
 - -Measure twice, complain once. Eph. 1:3
 - -Past blessings. Job 1:21
 - -Focus. Psalm 103:1-5

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. -- Psalm 103:1-5

- Re-thinking Contentment
 - -Measure twice, complain once. Eph. 1:3
 - –Past blessings. Job 1:21
 - -Focus, Psalm 103:1-5
 - -Light momentary affliction. 2 Corinthians 4:17

¹⁷For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison,

-- 2 Corinthians 4:17

- Re-thinking Contentment
 - -Measure twice, complain once. Eph. 1:3
 - -Past blessings. Job 1:21
 - -Focus. Psalm 103:1-5
 - -Light momentary affliction. 2 Corinthians 4:17
 - -The reach of God's sovereignty. Rom. 8:28

²⁸And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

-- Romans 8:28

- Re-thinking Contentment
 - -Measure twice, complain once. Eph. 1:3
 - -Past blessings. Job 1:21
 - -Focus. Psalm 103:1-5
 - -Light momentary affliction. 2 Corinthians 4:17
 - -The reach of God's sovereignty. Rom. 8:28
 - -The dangers of Easy Street. Proverbs 30:8

⁸Remove far from me falsehood and lying; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me,

-- Proverbs 30:8

- Re-thinking Contentment
 - -Measure twice, complain once. Eph. 1:3
 - -Past blessings. Job 1:21
 - -Focus. Psalm 103:1-5
 - -Light momentary affliction. 2 Corinthians 4:17
 - -The reach of God's sovereignty. Rom. 8:28
 - -The dangers of Easy Street. Proverbs 30:8
 - -My reliance. Proverbs 3:5; 1 Peter 5:7

⁵Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

-- Proverbs 3:5

⁷Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

-- 1 Peter 5:7

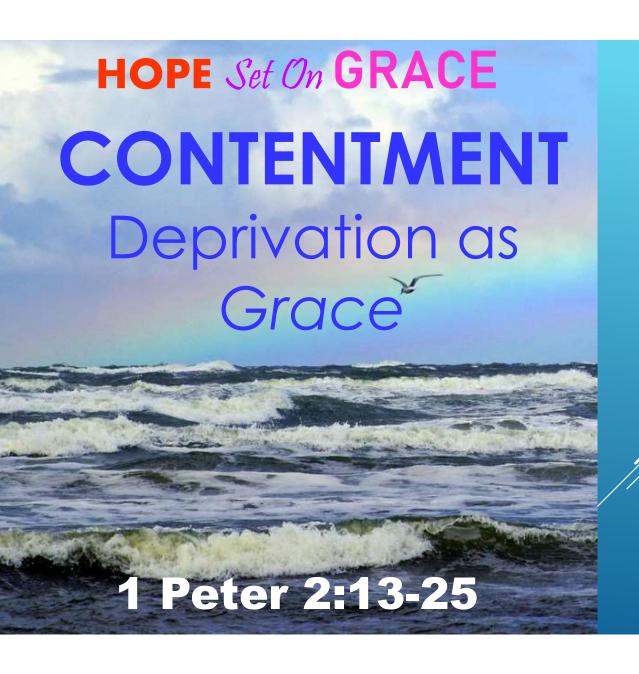
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- Deprivation as Grace
 - -Since God is contented with Himself alone, if you have Him, you may be contented with Him alone, and it may be, that is the reason why your outward comforts are taken from you, that God may be all in all to you.

- Deprivation as Grace
 - -It may be that while you had these things they shared with God in your affection, a great part of the stream of your affection ran that way: God would have the full stream. Run to Him now.
 - Jeremiah Burroughs
 - The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment

²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls. .

- 1 Peter 2:21-26



Lesson Eight:

CONTENTMENT

Deprivation as Grace

1 Peter 2:13-25

