**GODLINESS PLUS**

1 Timothy 4:8, 6:6-10

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**INTRODUCTION**

People everywhere are searching for satisfaction in life. They will go anywhere, do anything, give everything in order to gain it. How important is a sense of satisfaction to you? What would you be willing to do or give to have it? Today, I want to tell you how to have this contentment in life. It is much simpler than you might think. It can only be found in living a godly life. However, godliness by itself is not enough; it must be godliness plus. Godliness basically means to pattern one’s life according to the teachings of the Word of God, or to be God-like. Paul describes this as putting into practice “the mind of Christ” (Phil. 2:1-8).

1. **THE IMPORTANCE OF GODLINESS (1 Tim 4:8)**
2. Godliness is valuable for our **reputation**.
3. Godliness is valuable for our **relationship** with God.
4. Godliness is valuable for **all** **things**.

*Godliness pleases God and has enduring value both in this life and the next. It is one thing that no one can take from us.*

1. **THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTENTMENT**
2. We should be satisfied with having **food** to eat.
3. We should be satisfied with having **clothes** to wear (see Matt. 6:31-33).
4. We should be satisfied with **whatever** God gives us.

*Stop thinking, “If only….” Be contented, satisfied, with what you have. Paul tells us that godliness plus contentment offer not just gain, but great gain.*

1. **THE IMPORTANCE OF UNDERSTANDING REALITY**
2. We start out in this life with **nothing**.
3. We end this life with **nothing**.
4. We should not spend life accumulating **things** (vs. 9-10).

*What we accumulate in this life can be lost, even taken from us, in a moment by unforeseen circumstances. Godliness can only be lost in a moment by our own foolish choices, but it can never be taken from us by others.*

**CONCLUSION**

Thus, we have no control over possessions, only godliness. We can keep possessions only for a brief time in life, but we can possess godliness for all eternity. Therefore, be contented with what God gives you in life; but pursue godliness. True gain is being satisfied with having godliness! What do you pursue in your life? Gain or great gain? Possessions or godliness? Remember, God tells us through the Apostle Paul that “godliness with contentment is great gain!” It is Godliness Plus!

*“Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness,*

*And all these things shall be added unto you—Allelu, alleluia!”*