

Day-by-Day With God

Monday

Proverbs 13:25

25 The righteous eats to the satisfying of his soul, but the stomach of the wicked shall be in want.

Tuesday

Proverbs 19:23

23 The fear of the Lord leads to life, and he who has it will abide in satisfaction; he will not be visited with evil.

Wednesday

Ecclesiastes 4:8

8 There is one alone, without companion: he has neither son nor brother. Yet there is no end to all his labors, nor is his eye satisfied with riches.

Thursday

Philippians 4:12-13

12 I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. 13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Friday

I Timothy 6:6-8

6 Now godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.

Saturday

Let us prepare our hearts and our minds for the Lord's Day!

Welcome Visitors

We are so glad that you joined us today.

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Faithful Sayings

Olsen Park Church of Christ

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Services

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.
10:20 a.m.
6:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

Elders:

Ken Ford
Charles Kelley
Pat Ledbetter

Deacons:

Dean Bowers
Eddie Cook
Bill Davis
Pat Goguen
Neil Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Fred Perez
Rusty Scott

Evangelist:

Kyle Pope

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Danger of Plenty

Proverbs 30:7-9 7 *Two things I request of You (Deprive me not before I die): 8 Remove falsehood and lies far from me; Give me neither poverty nor riches - Feed me with the food allotted me; 9 Lest I be full and deny You, And say, "Who is the LORD?" Or lest I be poor and steal, And profane the name of my God.*

today in our daily lives trying to get all that we can? Tools are a blessing and a curse for some men today. Whenever the newest and the latest tools hit the market some men just have to have them. Usually the tools they have in their garage will work just as well. Wives, do you always have to have just one more pair of shoes or a newer dress? All of us can say yes to some of these examples as we go through life. Have you ever wondered why we always need more stuff, because when it is all said and done we will have a garage sale and just give the items away that we have acquired only to get something else to take its place. Sometimes it can be hard to be content with what we have. Sometimes we are always asking God for a newer home or the latest TV or I-Pod. Is there a danger

when we have acquired too many items? Can we forget who really gave us what we have? Can we forget God in the process of acquiring too much of a good thing? In the first place, the more we want the more we are willing to pay, which is a danger especially in this country. The average American debt is growing larger and the bankruptcies are growing at an alarming rate. In other words, some people cannot control their spending habits while others are victims of circumstances when they hit hard times and illness.

Another danger is that of never being satisfied with what we have. Thus, we can fall into the temptation of worshiping money instead of God. If we look into the Bible we can find many examples of those who fell into the trap of having too much and wanting more. In **Genesis 2**, we find that God put Adam in the garden to work it and to take care of it. Then God gave Adam a helper, who was Eve. Both of them were to live in a perfect world and just take care of the garden. They had everything their hearts ever desired. But they listened to the devil, the serpent, and took the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. (**Genesis 2:15-17; 3:6**) Adam and Eve both knew better, but the devil enticed them. They saw the fruit was pleasing to the eyes so they ate it, even though they had the whole garden.

In **Judges 2**, we read about the nation of Israel. After they had conquered most of the land promised to them by God, they forsook God and went after false gods such as the Baals. The land that God had given to them

was a land flowing with milk and honey, in other words, it was rich land and good for living in as seen in **Judges 2:1**. They were to live in the promised land and eat till their hearts were content. God was to be their God, but they still looked for other gods. Do we as Christians today, follow after other gods such as wealth, fame, our homes, and the pleasures around us? Can these so called gods cause us to sin before God? Yes they can. When we get caught up in our jobs or our hobbies we will eventually forget about God and go astray. In **II Samuel**, we can read about David, who was a man after God's own heart. David was a godly man and always wanted to please God in everything that he did. David is found to be the greatest king of Israel; he was in the ancestry of Christ and a valiant warrior. David acquired a lot of land while he was the king. He also had a lot of wives, as well as concubines. One would think with all these wives and concubines any man would be satisfied, but this was not to be the case. In **II Samuel 11**, we find where David saw Bathsheba taking a bath which led to adultery, murder, and the death of a child. Is more better? Not hardly. David should have been content with what he had.

It seems the more we have the more we want. We, as a society, are never content with all that God has given us. God has blessed this country more than any country in the world, but we want more. This is the main reason in this country that personal debt is rising at an alarming rate. Many in our coun-

try today are not content with what they have. They tend to buy what they can't afford. Our attitude should be that as seen in **I Timothy 6:6**. Contentment is the only way to have full spiritual growth and full personal fulfillment with God. We as Christians should honor and praise God as the center of our desires, only for Him. For in **Matthew 6:24**, plainly says that we cannot serve two masters such as money or God. A good example of this is found in **Luke 12:16**, where Jesus told the people a parable about a certain rich man. This young man had a good crop and thought to himself that he would tear down his barns and build bigger ones. And he said to himself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry." But God said to him, "You fool this very night your life will be demanded from you." You see the rich man that Jesus was talking about died before he could enjoy the goods he had in his bigger barns, Instead of giving God the praise he gave himself the praise and honor. He died before he could enjoy the fruits of his labor.

Another good example is found in **Luke 16:19** which tells about the rich man and the poor man, Lazarus. In this parable, the rich man was dressed in purple and fine linens and lived in luxury every day. Now the poor man, Lazarus, lay at his gate and begged for food; covered with sores and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Planning for your retirement and preparing for your life before you die is a wise thing for all of us to do. But when we accumulate wealth only to

enrich ourselves and are not rich toward God, then our downfall before God is sure to happen, The rich man died and went to Hades and lifted up his eyes in torments; he lost his soul. Lazarus, the beggar, died and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom. The poor man was poor in material things, but he was rich toward God and saved his soul. With some, the more they acquire the least likely they will depend on God was not first in their lives. Our attitude should be like Paul in **Philippians 4:12-13**. Now I am not saying it is wrong to have nice things in life such as a nice home, red Chevy truck, nice furniture, and a good job. These are blessings from God. The problem starts when we begin to worship these material blessings and are never satisfied with what God has blessed us with. Often we can get side-tracked when we take our eyes off of God and forget that He gave us these blessings. We, like Adam and Eve, the nation of Israel, King David and the rich fool, tend to get into trouble by always wanting a little bit more. We spend more time at the office worshiping our bank account, instead of being with the Church worshiping God. As we go through life let us love life, love our families, and most of all love God for all that He has done for us. He has promised us He will never leave us. (**Hebrews 13:5-6**)

By Bill Davis