

## Content to be Faithful Daniel 6

### Introduction:

- “Contentment” is “the resting or satisfaction of mind without anxiety.”
- We live in a world system that refuses to be content with being faithful. The divorce rate is nearly 50%, and most people jump from job to job. As Christians, you have the opportunity to develop a life knowing how to be content, making you a faithful servant of the Lord.
- Daniel knew what it meant to be content. He was taken captive by a Gentile nation and remained faithful to God no matter what.

Every Christian must be content with just following the Lord.

### Why should you be content to follow the things of God in your life?

#### 1. Because a content person is able to be used by God. Daniel 6:1-3

- Daniel was not seeking to live life looking for status or riches; he was content to serve his God and to do it faithfully in every situation.
- Here, Daniel is under the rule of a third king, and he is still favored! Why? He was content being faithful to God, and not seeking the approval of man; however, his life was respected by these kings as a result!
- Remember where Daniel came from. He was taken captive by the Babylonian armies, and therefore, he was not living the greatest lifestyle, yet he was content to be a faithful child of God.
- It is every person’s tendency to desire more in life than what he or she already has.
- For example, the first TV’s sold in 1954 public sale were about 13 inches, and later that year a 21-inch made it to market. Today the average TV size is nearly 60 inches, almost five times bigger than those of 1954.
- There is a place for seeking to improve and make things better; however, when it comes to your spiritual life, you must learn to be content with your life as it is. Why?
- People who are discontent seek to fill their time with things for their own wants and desires, while others who are content with their lives have more time to look for ways to be used by God.
- Paul told Timothy in **1 Timothy 6:6**, “...*godliness with contentment is great gain.*”
- Was he talking about financial gain? No, it was the gain that comes from being used by God in the lives of others.

- Paul knew the value of impacting lives for Christ! **Philippians 4:1**
- When you realize that true wealth is found in the lives of those God is able to touch through you, the material things of this world seem like trash.
- True contentment will lead to your life becoming a valuable resource for God.

## 2. Because it will keep you from developing a jealous heart. **Daniel 6:4-9**

- The princes and presidents that were not following the Lord had developed a jealous heart because of the favor that Daniel received.
- Why was it that the other men who were given the same position as Daniel were jealous of Daniel? They were not content with what they had, they saw someone else with more respect and honor and instead of learning from Daniel's example, they sought to eliminate Daniel.
- I must tell you that one way to become the best is to eliminate those around you who are better than you, but that will only leave you alone and without anyone to notice how good you are!
- A jealous heart is the root of anger. **Proverbs 6:34, 27:4**
- When you see people who always seem mad at the world, you will learn that their anger is a result of some sort of jealousy toward another.
- If a jealous heart is not corrected, it will lead to major consequences.
- In Daniel 6:24, we see that the men who were jealous were fed to the lions!
- When did jealousy first appear on the earth? It was when Cain was mad about his brother's sacrifice being accepted. Then, because he did not know how to deal with it, he killed his own brother out of rage!
- A jealous heart will always distract you from following God's Word and seeking to please Him. You must learn to be content, which prevents jealousy!

## 3. Because it will help you to make it through the tough times. **Daniel 6:16-23.**

- Daniel was, no doubt, in a bit of trouble! However he was content to go through it, knowing that God would be glorified through his faithfulness.
- Can you imagine what was going through Daniel's mind as he was walking into the lions' den? He knew that these lions were hungry and knew what they would do with anyone who walked into their den!
- I believe, it was Daniel's faithfulness and his contentment that enabled him to walk into that den calmly, trusting the Lord to keep the lions from devouring him.
- Faithfulness and contentment will enable you to endure the tough times that this world will bring.
- Would the lions have eaten Daniel had he gone in screaming and fighting? Probably, but because Daniel was content and able to trust God, the lions were under control.

- We all face the den of lions in our lives, too. However, the lion appears as power, position, popularity, and many other evil temptations.
- Many Christians are devoured by lions of power, position, popularity, and much more, because they are not content with their lives. Others are content with living lives for Christ, and because of their contentment, they are able to avoid falling into the grasp of those lions!
- 2 Timothy 2:4

**Conclusion:**

Daniel's life was recorded for us because he was faithful, and he was faithful because he was content to be a child of God, no matter what that brought in his life.

You will only find contentment by making the choice to live with the mind of Christ. Contentment is said to be humility without external honor. Philippians 2:5-8