



Discontentment

SUBTLE YET SINFUL

Discontentment Defined

- ▶ Definition:

- The condition of being dissatisfied with one's life or circumstance

- ▶ Types:

- Legitimate (Draws us toward improving our relationship with God)
- **Sinful (Negatively affects our relationship with God)**

- ▶ Examples – Vary from extremely difficult to trivial:

- ▶ Singleness | Unhappy marriage | Inability to bear children
- ▶ Physical disabilities | Poor health
- ▶ Material desires | General dislikes



**We MUST recognize Discontentment
as sin**

Don't be deceived

Reasons why Discontentment is sin

Discontentment demonstrates...

▶ Lack of trust in God

- Disbelief or Faithlessness

▶ Pride

- Desire to be sovereign in place of God
- Denies God's wisdom and exalts my own

▶ Rebellion

- Unwilling to accept God's plan
- Coveting what God has not been pleased to give us

LACK OF TRUST IN GOD

- ▶ Exodus 17:7 – **Israelites Disbelief**
 - ▶ ...Is the Lord not Among us?
- ▶ Hebrews 11:6 – **God's standard**
 - ▶ But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

PRIDE

- ▶ Genesis 3:5 – **Eve deceived**

- ▶ For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.

- ▶ Jude v6 – **Fallen angels**

- ▶ And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day

- ▶ Proverbs 16:5 – **God's view**

- ▶ Everyone proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord;

REBELLION AGAINST GOD

- ▶ Romans 9:20 – **Denying God's Wisdom**
 - ▶ But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? Shall what is formed say to Him who formed it, "Why did You make me like this?"
- ▶ 1 Samuel 15:22-23 – **Saul's Blatant Disobedience**
 - ▶ "Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, *And* to heed than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, *And* stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He also has rejected you from being king."



**We MUST recognize Discontentment
as sin in our lives**

Don't be deceived

Affect on the Believer

- ▶ Normalizes active disobedience to God
- ▶ Gateway to greater and more grievous sins
- ▶ Damaging testimony to those around us



**We MUST recognize Discontentment
as an unacceptable sin in our lives**

How to Combat Discontentment

- ▶ Seek scripture
- ▶ Apply God's word in your life
- ▶ Daily, fight the flesh with the Spirit

Combat Discontentment

▶ Philippians 4:11-13

- ▶ Not that I speak from want, for **I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.** I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

Combat Discontentment

▶ 1 Timothy 6:6-12

- ▶ **But godliness with contentment is great gain.** For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For 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. But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

Combat Discontentment

▶ Galatians 5:16

- ▶ I say then: **Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.** For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.



**We MUST deal with our
Discontentment and turn it into an
opportunity to glorify God**