

"Wherefore I perceive that there is nothing better, than that a man should rejoice in his own works; for that is his portion: for who shall bring him to see what shall be after him?" Ecclesiastes 3:22 KJV



Entertainment profits by delusion. Every dollar comes from those who can least afford it. We decry the lottery, but fail to see entertainment as a far worse addiction! Many live their lives vicariously through their chosen entertainment idol, be it singer, actor, religious guru, or athlete! Covetousness is the root is the mother of addiction. *"Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for [God] hath said, 'I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.'*" Happiness is dependent upon "happenings" (surroundings/environment). Why is TV so loaded with ads? Satan tempts us into desiring more than God has provided. Like Eve, we see, we covet, and we sin.

"The woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat." Adam knew better, but coveted and ate right along with Eve. Like a greedy child with a handful of cookies, we clutch with one hand and strive to gather more with the other; too stressed about getting more to enjoy what we have, not realizing that our Father will give us as much as we need. *"Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. Your Father knoweth what things ye have need of before ye ask. Ask and ye shall receive. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. This is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask any thing according to His will, He heareth us: And if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him."* If you're discontent, you're guilty of covetousness. It even finds its way into the Assembly of believers. Pastors covet popularity among preachers. Members covet recognition in the Assembly. We covet money, possessions, and leisure, but fail to admit covetousness in ourselves saying, "I'm just trying to make a better life for my family!" We should provide for our own, but part of that is *"instruction in righteousness."* Practice what you preach. We lose our children to the world, because all they ever see us doing is pursuing it. If we truly believed God, we would be zealously believing and living, *"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."* (Matthew 6:33-34)

Rejoice and care for what you have,
Or you may find a lonesome path,
Without a penny to your name,
Still reaching out for wealth and fame. ~CGP

We say we believe God, but our lives prove our words a lie. "Count Your Blessings" is more a popular tune than a heeded admonition! If you can't joy in what you have, you'll never joy in what you get. *"Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied."* You'll always want more, because lust is never satisfied.

"But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And, having food and raiment, let us be therewith content. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." 1 Timothy 6:6-10 KJV