

Text: Ecclesiastes 5:8-20
Topics: Contentment, Covetousness, Money
Series: Ecclesiastes: Words to the Wise

Monroe Bible Church
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Love, Money and Happiness

I. Corruption (8-9)

Corruption is inevitable.

II. Covetousness (10-17)

Covetousness leads to problems.

III. Contentment (18-20)

God grants contentment to those who can see God's gifts in their circumstances.

Application Questions - *These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group, for even more benefit.*

1. Which one of the ten commandments (Exodus 20:3-17) was the only one that that wasn't primarily an external act? What should it have caused a person to do?

2. What's Paul's warning in 1 Timothy 6:9-10, 17?

What does he encourage Timothy to do in verses 17-18, 11, and 6?

3. In Acts 20:32-35 Paul said he did not covet. What did he do?

4. Read what Paul wrote from prison in Philippians 4:11-13. What had he learned?

What would be your contentment level if all your material possessions were cut in half? (i.e. what you now possessed were of ½ the value) Why?

What would you do? Would coveting be present?

5. Another aspect of Paul's contentment is revealed in 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. If you don't have a physical or mental disability, or relentless persecution – imagine that you do now. How content would you be with your circumstances? Why? What would you do?

6. What does the author of Hebrews urge his readers to do in Hebr. 13:5-6? What were they to believe was true?

What's one practical thing you can do to move yourself further from covetousness and deeper into contentment?

7. What is the main application of this study, and/or the sermon and its passages, for you?