



Hunger For Truth

Edited by: Craig Glickman

Hunger For Truth Ministries

svdtday@yahoo.com

June 15, 2012

Greetings

Hello and welcome to another edition of Hunger For Truth. As Summer quickly approaches it does not feel like Summer. As I type this the temperatures have been in the 40s for lows and 50s and 60s for highs the last few days!

This issue includes another devotional by Brother Andrew Lacroix on contentment. I also continue the study on the word 'alone' in the Bible. I have reposted information regarding the upcoming 'Readers Corner' column which will begin in July Lord willing.

On a MA update, the Lord continues to bless and provide for the HFT editor. I count it a privilege to serve my Lord and Savior in the New England area. Please pray for more churches to be planted in MA and throughout New England.

Please note that back issues of Hunger For Truth are viewable and printable at www.studytoanswer.net.

It is my desire that Hunger For Truth edifies, blesses and encourages you in your walk with the Lord.

Thank you all for taking the time to read this and for your prayers for me. I greatly appreciate your comments and I praise God for each and every one of you.

The Content of Contentment

By: *Andrew Lacroix*

Text: Numbers 11

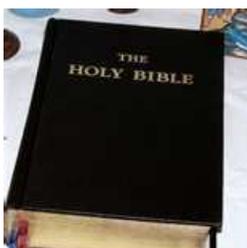
Both of the words "content" and "contentment" are not found in this text. However, it is the underlying tone in this passage. Through this text and other passages we'll look at, we'll see the point I'd like to make in this devotional. The word "content" is as translated 16x in the KJB; 10 in the OT and 6 in the NT. The word "contentment" is found just once in Scripture. We'll look at a lot of the passages containing these words. I am going to utilize nearly the entire chapter to get just a singular point across: Christians ought to be content. Now whilst it is true that we are to contend for some things (like the faith Jude mentions to his readers in v.3), we should not be contending with trivial things. This will eliminate a lot of our need to complain.

There are certainly a lot of people who complain nowadays. Sometimes we complain about stupid, worthless things, like when a baseball player makes errors in a game. Sometimes our complaining, at least in our eyes, is a little more "acceptable" when our vehicle breaks down (this occurs usually after we just had it fixed!). What is it about these situations that cause us to be in grief, sigh, mutter, moan, and utterly whine? Maybe we need a nice dose of contentment.

Not even five words into our text do we find the word "complained" (v.1). The word "complain", complete with additional suffixes, appear 18x throughout Scripture. For quite some time, the Lord had tolerated Israel's complaining. It didn't matter if it was the original Israelites who were groaning or the ones who joined up with this group in the exodus to the Promised Land. Anyway, He tolerated it from the pillar of cloud incident in Exodus 13 until the molten calf incident in Exodus 32. Since then, He has judged complaining every time. The molten calf incident cost 3,000 men their lives. Back to Numbers 11, God issues a warning with fire outside of the camp as this early incident should have served as a big reminder to not complain and trust in God.

Note verse four. Here we see it is the "mixed multitude" who "fell a lusting". These may have been some of the non-Israelites who joined along the way. However, they stirred up the Israelites. For all this time, most of what they had been eating was manna, which they later declared was a "light bread" which they loathed (21:5). They were not content with what God was providentially giving them. The diet they were on back in Egypt was the Old Country Buffet (except with better food) of its day: cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions, garlic, and fish. I call this the Egypt Smorgasbord. It seems like they had it all, were willing to give it up, but now were desiring it again.

Lack of contentment is what many of today's Christians suffer from today. In this technology and age, we desire the \$40,000 cars, 60 inch televisions with 250 channels (none of which we should probably be watching), the latest iPhone, nothing but the best when our Master had no place in which to lay His head! (cf. Luke 9:58) We want the huge house with six bedrooms and are willing to sacrifice things in order to obtain such luxuries. We allow Hollywood to entertain our children. We allow the NEA (God forbid) to teach our children and neglect Prov. 22:6 among other passages. Both parents work. Sundays? As soon as the preacher says amen, they have stuff to do. The children of the world have temper tantrums so it must be okay for ours as well. No, no, and no!...



Proverbs 7:2
Matt. 5:6
John 8:32
II Timothy 3:16-17
Heb. 4:2



"Let us Hunger For Truth"

...“Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate...” (2 Cor. 6:17) Teach your children to lay up for THEMSELVES treasure in Heaven. Mothers, home school your children if plausible. Fathers, work to provide so your wife can be home with the children! All the things of the world lead to rebellion and family ruin. For Christians to sacrifice eternity for temporary is not being wise. “Redeeming the time, because the days are evil” ought to be our model.

Back to our text. Moses becomes discouraged because of the state of the Israelites. He turns to God and then too, complains: “Wherefore hast thou afflicted thy servant? And wherefore have I not found favor in thy sight, that thou layest the burden of all this people upon me?” (v.11). Furthermore, he adds: “I am not able to bear all this people alone” (v.14). Moses desired to die.

Death was requested among God’s prophets a few times in Scripture. Moses here joins Elijah (I Kings 19:4) and Jonah (4:3,8) on Discouragement Drive at the intersection of Woe Way. For Moses to have come this far and now desire to die is exactly like Elijah after his Mount Carmel victory and Jonah after Nineveh was spared. After seeing such great triumphs through the Lord, discouragement had come, their countenance fallen, and they were no longer wanting to be in the fight.

Moses is asked to gather seventy elders. They would be responsible to bear the burdens of the 650,000 men traveling, plus women and children. Moses was not content because those whom he had the rule over were discontented.

When we complain, we are not content. I see many Christians being discontent with: 1) Our wages. Luke 3:14: “...and be content with your wages.” God will judge your company/boss for what they paid you. Remember Romans 14:12: “So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.” Remember to tithe off your wages, so you can receive a blessing and that you’re not robbing God (cf. Mal. 3:8,10). 2) Our things. God has allowed us to purchase what is necessary and we must be good stewards of our finances. I Cor. 4:2: “Moreover it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful.” If you prove yourself faithful with your stewardship(s), God will give you more; and vice versa. Hebrews 13:5 speaks of not being covetous as well as the 9th and 10th Commandments in Exodus. 3) Our state. Look, we all have our share of predicaments. Some of them are for the glory of God, but others are because we have done wrong and God is now chastening us to repent and return to Him. Chastisement should be a blessing, not a burden. God only spans His own, and if you’re not “red on the bottom”, you just may not be His! (cf. Heb. 12:6-8) Paul never complained about the 195 stripes he got, or his near death experiences. I’m sure a ship being destroyed didn’t bother him either (cf. Acts 27). We may be in the poor house, but God is in control of each of our poorhouses, Amen. 4) Our future. “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” (I Tim. 6:7-8). We didn’t have on an Armani suit right out of the womb, did we? No. We came into this world with nothing. We will die and go out the exact same way. What’s the point of making money for 70 hours a week when you keep nothing at the end of it all? With material wealth now rendered insignificant, therefore, we should pursue spiritual wealth. Paul alludes to these in 6:11. All we truly need God will provide.

Let’s return to our text. God sends them quails that they are able to knock down and gather like they did the manna (v. 31-32). However, their request didn’t come free. It came with a tremendous price tag. It was too high a price for people who should have been content in the first place. The Psalmist reflected on this event, commenting: “And He gave them their request, but sent leanness into their soul” (Ps. 106:15). While they were chewing the quails, God smote them with a plague. We are not told how many were judged with death. What we are told was that they were buried at Kibbroth-Hattavah, Hebrew for “graves of craving”. Paul brings this event up to Corinth as one of the reminders of just how far they came (I Cor 10:6).

The sooner we find contentment amidst our daily walk with the Lord, the sooner we realize we truly have nothing to complain about. Move forward in your life, lest you look back and desire the “Egypt Smorgasbord” or become a pillar of salt as in Lot’s wife.

“Alone” ~ Part 4

By: Craig Glickman

This is the continuation of a long, yet informative study on every appearance of the word “alone” in the Bible. This word appears 106 times in the King James Version. For sake of space, I will show only the reference but I encourage you to take your Bible and read the passages.

Job 7:16, 19 - In this passage Job is speaking to God from his heart about his feelings of unfairness, rejection and doubt and even wished that God would leave him alone! Praise God he never leaves His children alone,...

...even when we think we don't need Him. He also felt unworthy of knowing a Holy God (vs. 19-20). Job was very discouraged and desired to die (vs. 15-16). Job had yet to realize he did have sin and that was the sin of self righteousness. Once he repented of that sin, the Lord gave him victory and blessed him double fold.

Job 9:8 - In this passage Job recognizes that God alone is Creator! This passage clearly proves an evolutionist wrong.

Job 10:20 - This passage is similar to the Job 7:16,19 passage. Job wishes to be left alone by God and desires to die, is very discouraged and even wishes he had been aborted (Vs. 18-19)! He was indirectly cursing God who allowed him to be born! Job clearly was offended at God that he was going thru this tremendous trial. Again, he still had not yet seen his sin of self righteousness.

Job 13:13 - In this passage, Job asks his 'friends' to let him alone. He is confused and discouraged at all their accusations of him. This leads to a powerful verse which is verse 15. We need to realize as Job did that no matter what we go through, God is in control, we must trust fully and depend on Him even though he slay us. This is not easy and not possible apart from a willing and trusting heart and the power of the Holy Spirit who indwells the believer.

Job 15:19 - In this passage Eliphaz responds to Job and again is rebuking Job. Eliphaz may be referring to the earth alone given unto wise men as he then talks about a wicked or ungodly man (vs. 20-35).

The Danger of Jealousy - (By: Craig Glickman -- Reprinted from 6/1/11 H.F.T)

Galatians 5:26 tells us to not envy one another. James 3:16 says that where envy and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work! James 4:5 says that the spirit that dwelleth within us lusteth to envy! Deuteronomy 5:21 speaks of desiring and coveting things that are not ours. Envy and jealousy cause us to take our eyes off the Lord and onto self and we are not able to be content with what we have. It causes our hearts to boast of what we want, what we think we need and we can even start blessing those that are covetous, which the Lord abhors (Psalm 10:3, James 3:14)! Prov. 3:31 says "envy thou not the oppressor, and choose none of his ways." We must be content with what we have and not murmur and complain about what others have. If our heart is sound trusting the Lord to provide all our needs and realizing all we are and have are His, we will be joyful and content in Him and not envying the world and what they have (Psalm 37:7). Envy is the rottenness of the bones and brings no joy (Prov. 14:30)! Proverbs 27:4 says "...who is able to stand before envy?" The answer is NOBODY! Jealousy and envy of others and what others have will cause us to fall into sin and thus break our fellowship with the Lord and we will not be content with what we have. Do you have a problem with jealousy and envy? How can we get victory over jealousy and envy? We need to consider others needs, be giving, be charitable and desire to focus our hearts and minds on what we can do for others which is pleasing to the Lord (1 Cor. 10:24). In closing, we need to wait patiently for the Lord's will to be done in our lives and not focus on what others have or who they know that is "better than you or I have" (Psalm 37:7).

Sing His Praises

Psalm 66:2

GIVE OF YOUR BEST TO THE MASTER

This timeless hymn has a powerful message to help you and I ask the question, am I giving my best to the Master?

Give of your best to the Master;
Give of the strength of your youth;
Throw your soul's fresh, glowing ardor
Into the battle for truth.
Jesus has set the example,
Dauntless was He, young and brave;
Give Him your loyal devotion;
Give Him the best that you have.

Refrain:

Give of your best to the Master;
Give of the strength of your youth;
Clad in salvation's full armor,
Join in the battle for truth.

Give of your best to the Master;
Give Him first place in your heart;
Give Him first place in your service;
Consecrate every part.
Give, and to you will be given;
God His beloved Son gave;
Gratefully seeking to serve Him,
Give Him the best that you have. (Refrain)

Give of your best to the Master;
Naught else is worthy His love;
He gave Himself for your ransom,
Gave up His glory above.
Laid down His life without murmur,
You from sin's ruin to save;
Give Him your heart's adoration;
Give Him the best that you have. (Refrain)

Stop and Think

“Every human being, of whatever origin, of whatever station, deserves respect. We must each respect others even as we respect ourselves.”

*Ulysses S. Grant, 1822 – 1885
18th President of the USA*

Quotes

“True repentance is more than just a mental game. Repentance is a decisive change in direction. It’s a change of mind that leads to a change of thinking that leads to a change of attitude that leads to a change of feeling that leads to a change of values that leads to a change in the way you live.” --Ray Pritchard

“Regret is not repentance. Out of ten men in the Bible who said, “I have sinned,” only five actually repented.” -- H.G.B.

“Fallen man is not simply an imperfect creature who needs improvement; he is a rebel who must lay down his arms. Laying down your arms, surrendering, saying you are sorry, realizing that you have been on the wrong track and getting ready to start life over again... is what Christians call repentance.” --C.S. Lewis

“Repentance is a lost note in our preaching and experience and the lack of it is filling our churches with baptized sinners who have never felt the guilt of sin or the need of a Savior.” -- Vance Havner

“When people hear the Gospel they get everything they need, but don’t always do what they need to do (*believe*).”

☺ Children for Christ ☺

WORD SURPRISE

Memory Verse: 1 Timothy 6:6 - “But godliness with contentment is great gain”

Fill in the Blanks and put the missing letters together from #1 to #11 in order to form the surprise word.

1. A ___ H R I S T I A N is a follower of Jesus Christ
2. The ___ X E N plow the land
3. ___ O A H built the ark
4. All people need to ___ R U S T Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior
5. ___ N O C H Walked with God
6. Jesus of ___ A Z A R E T H
7. The ___ O W E R of Babel
8. Jesus Christ is the ___ E S S I A H
9. The devil is our ___ N E M Y
10. Cain dwelt in the Land of ___ O D
11. In the beginning God C R E A ___ E D the Heavens and the Earth (Gen. 1:1)

What is the surprise word? _____

Prayer Requests

- For godly contentment in our lives which is great gain (1 Tim. 6:6)
- Salvation of Mike, Debbie, Tom, Gary, Adam and A.J.
- A day shift position for the HFT editor
- Salvation of my sister Wendy, nephew Jacob and aunt's Sybil and Bernice.
- Outreach of Heritage Baptist Church
- Needs of the body of Heritage Baptist Church
- Missionaries across the globe
- Unspoken request for HFT editor

Praises

- God provided a very nice couch, recliner, dresser and other furnishings at no cost to the HFT editor and fellow room mates.
- God blessed with successful dental surgery the H.F.T. editor had over a 3 week period during the month of May.
- Praise God that true contentment is only found in Christ our LORD!

Reader's Corner

Dear reader, this is a new column I felt led to create starting in July Lord willing that will be on the last page of the newsletter. If you and your family have been blessed, edified and encouraged by Hunger For Truth and its articles, studies, devotionals, etc., as the Lord leads, please e-mail me with "readers corner" in the subject line. If this is you, I'd love to hear from you! I will post your comments in future issues of Hunger For Truth. Please don't feel obligated to reply. Thank you so much and may God richly bless you and your families.

Hunger For Truth is a bi-monthly e-newsletter publication edited by Craig Glickman who is a member of Heritage Baptist Church of Norwood, MA where the Pastor is Steve Hathaway.

~~~~~  
*If you wish to subscribe to H.F.T., or you have a praise, prayer request, study, devotional or article you would like posted in Hunger For Truth, please e-mail me at [svtday@yahoo.com](mailto:svtday@yahoo.com)*

~~~~~  
If you do not wish to continue to receive this bi-monthly newsletter, please e-mail me at svtday@yahoo.com with "Please Remove" in the subject line.

~~~~~  
*Thank you for reading this. I praise God for all my dear brothers and sisters in Christ and I greatly appreciate your prayers. May each and every one of you be richly blessed as we serve our precious Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

*His Servant,  
Craig Glickman*