

ABUSING YOUR BLESSING?

When we try to live above the standard that God has set for us, we create for ourselves stress, strain, tension, and pressure. We even create for ourselves nervousness, and heart trouble. When God bless us to move up to a certain level in life, we should make ourselves content, and be thankful to God for the blessings that He has blessed us with.

We should not try to move to another level materialistically or carnally. without consulting God.

II Timothy 6: 8-12 And **having food and raiment let us be therewith content.** ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ **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. ¹¹ But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. ¹² Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

Those who want to become rich bring temptation to themselves and are caught in a trap. Some people have left the faith, because they wanted to get more money, but they have caused themselves much sorrow.

We are told in the word of God to be content if we have clothes to wear and food to eat.

Know that we are blessed to have a shelter over our heads. Be thankful. Don't abuse your blessing by being greedy. Be thankful!

We abuse our blessings when we try to live above our means. That is a sin.

When we cannot be content on the level where God has placed us, it is because we are worldly minded.

A worldly minded person cannot be content. He is always trying to go above the standard that God set for him. When God has blessed us to have a nice car, and we see a car that is more popular than the car that God has blessed us with, and we go forth, and put ourselves in debt to get it, knowing that it might be a hardship sometime trying to make payments, we are abusing our blessing. God don't want us to put ourselves under stress, and strain. That's self abuse. The car that God blessed us with is in good condition, taking us where we need to go, but

we are not satisfied with it, because we have our sight set on a more popular car.

God has blessed some of us with a comfortable home, sufficient for our families to dwell in, but some of us won't be content with that because we have our sight set on the house on the hill. If we go forth and get that house on the hill, and find ourselves struggling to keep it, it is because we were not thankful for our God given blessing, and we stepped out on our own, not waiting on God. Now we are stressed, and under a strain. That is self abuse.

**BE CONTENT WITH YOUR GOD GIVEN BLESSINGS AND:
Colossians 3:2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.**

II Timothy 3:4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

**IF YOU FIND THAT YOUR JOY IS COMING FROM
WORLDLY PLEASURE, RATHER THAN THE THINGS OF
GOD, IT IS BECAUSE YOU ARE WORLDLY MINDED.**

Jeremiah 31:14 And I will satiate the soul of the priests with fatness, and **my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, saith the LORD.**

Matthew 16:26 For **what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?** or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

Romans 12:1-2 And **be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.** ³ For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, **not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think;** but to **think soberly**, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

I John 2: 15-17 Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. ¹⁷ And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

Luke 8:14 And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are **choked with cares and riches and pleasures of *this* life, and bring no fruit to perfection.** ¹⁵ But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep *it*, and bring forth fruit with patience.

John 12:43 For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

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Luke 12:16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: ¹⁷ And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? ¹⁸ And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. ¹⁹ **And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.** ²⁰ But God said unto him, *Thou* fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? ²¹ **So *is* he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.**

IF GOD PROVIDE FOR THE BIRDS, YES HE WILL PROVIDE FOR US.