

**Ephesians 6:12** For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. (NASB)

- n. Once negative volition sets in, there is a vacuum in the soul, which is the beginning of reversionism. The beginning of reversionism is always related to reaction and distraction because of negative volition toward Bible doctrine.
- o. The first stage of reversionism includes not only the arrogance of cosmic one, but the acceptance of false doctrine as a result of rejecting true doctrine.

**1 Timothy 4:1** But the same Holy Spirit explicitly communicates that in latter periods of time [between first and Second Advents of Christ], some believers will become apostate from doctrine, paying attention to deceitful spirits and concentrating on doctrines of demons.

**1 Timothy 6:3** If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not concur with sound doctrine, even doctrines pertaining to godliness,

**1 Timothy 6:4** he has received arrogance, understanding nothing. Furthermore, he has a morbid obsession about controversies and verbal conflicts from which originate jealousy, discord, evil speculations.

- p. Therefore, in stage one, distractions to Bible doctrine result in negative volition. Negative volition creates the vacuum in the soul that sucks in all the false doctrine.

## 2. The Frantic Search for Happiness.

- a. Once you have become negative toward doctrine and created the vacuum of the soul, you begin to suck in false concepts which result in the frantic search for happiness.
- b. Once a believer goes negative toward doctrine, he becomes frantic in his search for happiness. The frantic search for happiness is described in one phrase in 2 Tim 3:4, "... lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God."
- c. The frantic search for happiness has many directions: power, influence, approbation, success, status symbols, money, pleasure, social life,



friends, health, sex, material things associated with happiness. There's nothing wrong with many of these things, but when they have number one priority in your life, Bible doctrine will inevitably be neglected and rejected.

- d. If you are not content or happy with what you have now, then you will never be content or happy with what you will have in the future. So, if the reversionist is not content with what he has at the moment when the vacuum of the soul is first opened by negative volition and distraction, he will never be content with anything more in the future in reversionism.

If you are unhappy with what you have at the moment of implosion, explosion, and reversionism, you will be the same if every wish and desire of your soul were given to you at the moment you entered into reversionism. This is why the frantic search for happiness is frenetic.

- e. Happiness or contentment is based on capacity for life from Bible doctrine in the soul, not from prosperity. In other words, once you believe in Jesus Christ, happiness is not what you have and unhappiness is not what you do not have.

Perfect happiness is based on capacity for life, which is based on mental attitude, which is based on the amount of facilitated doctrine in your soul.

- f. Prosperity, success, power, approbation, status symbols, money, sex, pleasure, social life, or material things are really not a source of happiness. They are enjoyed by people with capacity for happiness and life, but they are a distraction to believers without capacity from doctrine.
- g. The only true source of perfect happiness for the believer in Jesus Christ is facilitated doctrine in the soul. Perfect happiness is that problem-solving device where we share the happiness of God. You must develop the capacity to share the happiness of God. God only sends His happiness to the soul that has doctrine resident therein. The soul in reversionism is no home for God's happiness.
- h. The advance through each stage of spiritual adulthood increases capacity for life. Advance in the protocol plan of God always provides a balance between capacity for what you have and the enjoyment of what you have.
- i. Sharing the happiness of God must be distinguished from the misery encountered in the frantic search for happiness. Perfect happiness

comes to the believer who executes the protocol plan, but there is no happiness to the believer involved in the frantic search for happiness.

- j. The frantic search for happiness finds the believer going in the direction of the trends of his old sin nature. Legalism unchecked results in moral degeneracy. Antinomianism unchecked results in immoral degeneracy.

**Hebrews 13:5** Let your lifestyle be free from the love for money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you [Deuteronomy 31:6]."

- k. You cannot be content with what you have unless you have maximum doctrine resident in your soul. This contentment begins with spiritual self-esteem, moves into spiritual autonomy, and reaches its peak in spiritual maturity.

To be content with what you have is the status of true happiness, which comes from capacity in the soul. Capacity in the soul comes from Bible doctrine.

- l. The vacuum in the soul is the opposite of this, and inevitably results in the frantic search for happiness.

**1 Timothy 6:6** But godliness is a means of great gain when accompanied by the contentment of perfect happiness.

**v. 7** For we brought nothing into this world, with the result that we can take nothing out of it.

**v. 8** And if we have food and clothing, with these we shall be content.

- m. Contentment is something you learn through perception, facilitation, and application of Bible doctrine.

**Philippians 4:11** Not that we speak on the basis of want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.

- n. The thing that improves with spiritual growth is your capacity for life, love, and happiness. The only thing that is different with the attainment of spiritual adulthood is that you have capacity to enjoy whatever you have.