



**“Peace in the Present Tense”
Pastor Duane Cross, 11.22.20**

“And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God’s Son does not have life. I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life. And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for. And we know that the Son of God has come, and he has given us understanding so that we can know the true God. And now we live in fellowship with the true God because we live in fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ. He is the only true God, and he is eternal life.”

[1 John 5:11-15, 20](#)

I. CONTENTMENT IS PRICELESS

“Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have.”

[Philippians 4:11](#)

“Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth.”

[1 Timothy 6:6](#)

CONTENTMENT IS PEACE IN THE PRESENT TENSE

II. CONTENTMENT IS ELUSIVE

“I simply made a decision to be content.”

“First, help me never to tell a lie. Second, give me neither poverty nor riches! Give me just enough to satisfy my needs. For if I grow rich, I may deny you and say, “Who is the Lord?” And if I am too poor, I may steal and thus insult God’s holy name.”

[Proverbs 30:8-9](#)

III. CONTENTMENT IS POSSIBLE

Christ is the Cure

Own the Problem

Needs not Greeds

“For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.”

[1 Timothy 6:7](#)

Thankful Spirit

“How grateful I am, and how I praise the Lord.”

[Philippians 4:10](#)

“..overflowing with thankfulness.”

[Colossians 2:7](#)

[Colossians 3:15](#) - “And be thankful.”

[Ephesians 5:20](#) - “always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

[Philippians 4:6](#) - “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”

[1 Thessalonians 5:18](#) - “give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

Enjoy What You Have

“Better what the eye sees than the roving of the appetite. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.”

[Ecclesiastes 6:9](#)

“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.”

[1 Timothy 6:17](#)

No Envy

Philip Bailey said, “Envy is a coal that comes rising from the hottest part of hell.”

Think Eternal

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.”

[Philippians 4:4-5](#)

“We give thanks to you, O God, we give thanks, for your Name is near.”

[Psalm 75:1](#)