

**Tenth Word: Overcoming discontent – be satisfied in God**  
**(Exodus 20.17; 09-13-20am)**

**Coveting** (Holman Bible Dict): Inordinate desire to possess what belongs to another; usually tangible things.

**Contentment** (HBD): Internal satisfaction which does not demand changes in external circumstances.

**Central thought:** Learn to be content with God's provision; materially and otherwise (cf. Jas 1.17; Jn 3.27)

**I. Dangers of coveting**

A. Coveting can pull us away from trusting God; asking Him for what we need  
(cf. Ps 34.8-10; Matt 7.7-11)

B. Coveting is a form of idolatry (Eph 5.5 & Col 3.5)

C. Left unattended, coveting can destroy the soul (1 Tim 6.10)

**II. Value of contentment**

A. Contentment facilitates godliness (1 Tim 6.6-8)

B. Contentment acknowledges that God knows our every need and will meet our every need (Matt 6.25-34)

C. Contentment affirms our confidence in God (Phil 4.11-13; cf. v19)

D. Contentment testifies that a relationship with God is supremely satisfying (Heb 13.5-6) (cf. Ps 73)

**III. Learning to be content: remember God is not only sovereign, He is also satisfying**

Precept: Contentment is a spiritual battleground.      Contentment is a gospel issue – directed at the heart.

1. When you are prone to grumble, remember reasons to be grateful (1 Thess 5.17-18)

2. When you find yourself wanting something you don't have, remember to store up treasures in heaven  
(Matt 6.19-21)

3. When you are feeling dissatisfied, remember God is working all things for your good (Rom 8.28)

What do we do when we truly feel our desires are healthy for us, somehow our possessions are inadequate?

- 1) First, check your heart spiritually – what does God's word say about your situation?
- 2) Ask other godly leaders and church members to help you evaluate your discontent.
- 3) Pray for God's direction. Don't be bashful about persisting in prayer.