



bits from bob....

Sufficiently Filled with What Is at Hand **April 6, 2020**

Heb 13:5 says, "...be content with what you have, for he has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.'"

Contentment, contentedness -- what is it?

The original, now obsolete meaning was "satisfactory payment," communicating the idea of being filled or fulfilling (perhaps related to our word "contents"). The idea was that the debt was fulfilled; the balance sheet was even.

That idea led to the definition, "sufficiently filled with what is at hand."

I like that: sufficiently filled with what is at hand. Having that mentality and attitude keeps me from dwelling on the current difficulties or what is beyond my control.

Are you sufficiently filled with what is at hand?

Do you spend too much time worrying about the future, failing to find true contentedness?

In conversations over the past couple of weeks, I have observed more than once that this is a great time to be alive! What an amazing time in history! Thinking about 2000 years of history since the time of Jesus, has there ever been a time when the doors for the gospel have been more open? Has the church ever been presented with more opportunities to look outward to reach and touch people for Jesus? In the midst of problems and incredible death tolls, more and more people are seeking assurance, comfort, and peace. Opportunities to advance the gospel abound.

Yesterday morning, a brother from Ecuador wrote me, "God is opening a great and effective door in this time, we must take advantage of technology to reach more souls, to understand the grace and the sovereignty of God."

Yesterday afternoon, I attended a virtual reunion of hundreds of Christians, finalizing the preparations to launch a Virtual Evangelism Campaign in the Dominican Republic.

I think about the words of Heb 13:5, and remember that Jesus is beside us, among us, within us, and for us. We are sufficiently filled with what is at hand. The future shines ever brighter.

Indeed, what is at hand is for today sufficient. God will take care of tomorrow, and the next day, and the next day, unto eternity.

A final lesson I see in the verse: our contentedness is directly proportional to how firmly we grasp the promise of his continuing presence. May you know this week that he is with you, he is beside you, he is for you, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."