

COMPLACENCY

PRECEPT

REVELATION 3:15-21

¹⁵ I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! ¹⁶ So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. ¹⁷ You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.’ But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. ¹⁸ I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. ¹⁹ Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. ²⁰ Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me. ²¹ To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne.

PROMISE

Complacency is a state of convenience that renders a person spiritually vulnerable, leading to apathy and even a rejection of Christ’s teachings. A person develops a self-serving and spiritually indifferent attitude. They create a bubble where they can conveniently stay the same and never be required to take a hard look. They inadvertently become blind to the people and places God desires them to minister to with his gospel of love. Someone who is complacent is very comfortable with their current state and puts little to no effort into spiritual growth. They go to churches that don’t challenge them. They neglect what is important in favor of only serving themselves. They neglect their relationship with God and their God-given responsibility to others. They surround themselves with people who agree with everything. Complacency comes from a negative, uncritical self-satisfaction that lacks motivation for spiritual advancement. This is very different from a content person, who is satisfied with God’s provision while still striving toward their goals. Contentment comes from a place of peace and gratitude, appreciating what one has while continuing to grow and serve God. Complacency can disguise itself as contentment.

Regularly examine your lives in light of the scriptures. You already have direct access to God. You can talk to Him anytime and anywhere. How much time and how frequently do you pray and read God’s Word? A vital prayer life is necessary because it helps to avoid spiritual stagnation. Stay immersed in scripture and consistently renew the mind with the Word of God. Romans 12:2 says, “Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will”. Remain active in your faith by serving others and seeking God’s will. Are you part of a Life Group? Are you volunteering in one of our many Life ministries? Are you in a discipleship program? Resist the discontentment prevalent in society by practicing gratitude and relying on the Holy Spirit’s power. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 tells, “Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus”.

PRACTICE

- 1. Complacency.** How can we be content without becoming complacent and lazy?
- 2. Be content.** If there’s any, what/who makes you feel complacent right now? And how can we pray/encourage you regarding this?

PRAYER

I. Service

- Pray that we may serve God and His people faithfully and proclaim His truth boldly.

II. Growth

- May He guide us as we seek to grow in faith and character, and to learn from Christ.

III. Courage

- Pray that God may grant us the courage to face the challenges before us.

IV. Joy

- May God help us to find delight in His presence and to share joy with others.

V. Faith

- Pray that God may strengthen our faith. Help us to seek His guidance in all we do.

VI. Gifts

- Pray that we may be equipped with the gifts of the Spirit to serve God.

VII. Prayer

- Let us all seek God’s presence in prayer.