Part 2

Theme. We have looked at Jesus warnings about the "the love of many growing cold", "a great falling away...", Christians will become "lukewarm", and "when I return, will I find faith on the earth?". We determined that these warnings are more pertinent today than ever before. So we must take them serious. The safe guard is what I have been preaching about in this series entitled: The Complexities of Contentment.

God's word speaks much to us as Christians about contentment. But what kind of contentment?

Text: Matthew 6:25-26 (NIV);

Outline:

I. Growing

A. Called to Grow...

- → We are not called to grow a fortune here. We are called to grow a treasure in heaven.
- → We are not called to grow comfortable here... We are called to grow content in what God has promised to provide: physically... to trust the Lord!
- → We are called to build the Kingdom of God. We are to realize that life is about more than what we wear, what we eat, and paying the bills. We can preach every Sunday about the realities of everyone going through a difficult time and principles found in the Scripture to help us cope with life. But in this series, we are talking about establishing our footing more into the Kingdom of God...and LESS inside the world.

B. Check your Calling!

→ Understanding that we are not called to grow more worldly or more comfortable here: We are called to become less comfortable here:

1 Peter 2:10-12 (NLT)

II. Living as Citizens – Where? Philippians 3:19-21 (NLT)

- **A. Our Appetite will Reflect:** What pulls us? What do we long for more and more? What desires overwhelm us? What attracts us the most? These are tough questions, but they reflect our spiritual condition.
 - Are we resolved to be more at home as a citizen of God's Kingdom or are we becoming more and more content here on earth?

B. Our Citizenship will be revealed:

Concerning the Kingdom of God: Ephesians 2:19 (ESV)

- One day, according to Matthew 25:, Jesus will judge, separating the sheep from the goats. Appetite is one of the main things that set these two apart.

C. At Home In His Presence - Here.

In Ephesians 2: it talks about becoming more and more familiar with being a citizen of Heaven, with the saints, and members of God's house... But it also explains how this is done: This "House" has been in the process of being built, starting with the Prophets and the Apostles and culminating with Jesus Christ, the "cornerstone" or "foundation" stone. Now each of us are being "joined together" to become more and more at home IN HIM. More and more Holy in Him. Literally becoming apart of the temple, where God can inhabit here, until we (who are in Christ) are all brought together to be with Him THERE.

Ephesians 2:22 (ESV)

So we are called to be more at home in His presence here...so we long to be with Him always There!

Psalm 23:6 (NKJV) "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life;" **STOP** *Why? Because there is a resolve declared here:*

"And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever."

- → Are we being beckoned by the world or are we listening to the Holy Spirit?
- How do we listen to the Holy Spirit? Find <u>Old time fire with a New time desire</u>! Become an <u>Uber Leader</u> in your generation like Daniel.
 <u>Be Purposeful in Prayer</u>. Be determined to live up to your full potential in Christ as an <u>Anointed Believer</u>, ready to defeat the Goliath's standing in your way! Become a <u>Soul Winner with Purpose</u>! And have <u>Kept Faith</u> Contend for the faith!
- **Be filled with the Holy Spirit.** Ephesians 5:18 (NLT)