



“And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also.” 1 John 4: 21

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**Sunday – September 9, 2018**

## **Heart to Heart...**

We have heard many times the statement, *‘The grass is greener on the other side.’* What this statement says is things will be better somewhere else, doing something different. People are easily caught up in things that are new and think that changing jobs or places to live will lead to better things for their personal lives. There are occasions that this could be true when something comes along that is offered us for the betterment, an upgrade. Sadly, to say, most of the time situations are not helped and the move is short lived and people find themselves right back where they were or maybe a little worse off because people are simply unhappy in their lives.

People aren’t content. We live in a society of discontentment. People are haunted by something in their past or their lives have become so mundane that the daily drag wears on them. Something comes along and immediately we think that’s the answer for our lives. Why do things look better somewhere else? Because we have never been there or done that but we have been where we are! It looks better in the mind. The word of the Lord is set aside. *“If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content. But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction.”* (1 Timothy 6:8-9) People many times are not content because their lives are filled with the wrong things or desires. We need to change daily in our walk with Jesus. Too many want a change without changing their behavior toward the Lord. Changing circumstances will not solve an unchanged life!

Paul said he learned the secret of contentment. He learned to be content in whatever circumstances he found himself. (Philippians 4:11-12) It came down to one thing: living through and for Jesus Christ daily (Philippians 4:13). Paul was in prison when he wrote this and learned to be content. There was a power in his life and he knew circumstances do not determine our lives. As long as one is estranged from the Lord, not reaching with a whole heart to walk in His life, there will always be discontentment. There will be this longing, this reaching because we have not dealt honestly with our lives before God.

Changing our circumstances might look better and we might believe we will be better off somewhere else. But sooner or later that change, your sin-filled self, your selfish desires will follow you and will find you out. Back to the land of discontentment and misery we will head. Here's the better approach to life: be honest between you and the Lord. Give your heart into His hand and follow Him learning it's through Christ anything will move forward. Learn to be content with what you have and where you are. The doors that open will be a true blessing from Him and our lives will be full. Too many are fooling themselves into thinking they would be better off with greener grass and they forget, they still have to mow!!! Think about it!!!

Brent