



NightLight

A NEWSLETTER OF McLEAN MINISTRIES

"take heed....as to a light that shines in a dark place." II Peter 1:19

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Dear Friends,



*He has made everything beautiful in its time.
He also has planted eternity in men's hearts and minds
[a divinely implanted sense of a purpose
working through the ages which nothing under the sun
but God alone can satisfy.]*

Ecclesiastes 3:11 Amplified

*When your words came, I ate them;
they were my joy and my heart's delight,
for I bear your name, O Lord God Almighty.*

Jeremiah 15:16 NIV

*...I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances...
I have learned the secret of being content in any and every
situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in
plenty or in want. I can do everything through Him who
gives me strength.*

Philippians 4:11-13 NIV



True satisfaction can only be had one place. True satisfaction is a contentment that lasts. True satisfaction is a place of reprieve from striving. True satisfaction is full of the power of joy, even in the grip of suffering. True satisfaction cannot be found in the finite, only in the infinite.

True satisfaction cannot be found in things - not in money, not in possessions, not in accomplishments. True satisfaction cannot be found in power. True satisfaction does not result from retirement. You cannot buy it, earn it, or make it.

True satisfaction cannot be found in people. You're getting closer to it though, when you look to others to find satisfaction. That's because genuine love for another can lead you to reality. And genuine love always leads away from you for the good of the other. But when your goal in looking to others is for your own satisfaction, love cannot grow. It turns into something dark. Your desire compels you to manipulate and control another person to conform them to what you want. This person becomes an idol in your heart. True satisfaction does not come from idol worship.

True satisfaction can only be found in One. In the Blessed Trinity - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. True satisfaction can only be had one place. In communion with our precious Lord Jesus Christ. Living in an ongoing relationship with God. All other satisfactions follow after as a result of living in His Presence day by day. We were made for eternity. We were made by Love, for love, to love. When we focus on the finite, we lose sight of the infinite. When we focus on things and/or people, we lose sight of the Unseen Real.

Are you living in true satisfaction? Are you content, and at peace, even in the face of trouble? Do you walk with Him daily, through the good times and the bad? Or, are you depressed, discontented, unsatisfied? Are your thoughts and desires consumed by stuff? Are your emotions dictated to you by what another person does or doesn't do? Are you trying to manipulate what you want another person to be? Are you thinking your life will be complete only if you had -----?

Ask the Holy Spirit to show you what affections may be off center in your life. Does all your 'loves' lead to the Cross? Or do you pull them back to yourself, and want them to make you happy? Stuff and people cannot complete us. Only the Lord Jesus. In Him, we become true persons. In Him, we learn to love as we are loved, day in and day out. Only in His loving presence, walking in the Spirit, keeping our eyes on Jesus, is true satisfaction.





Transformed by His Gaze

(Oswald Chambers, My Utmost for His Highest)



The look of Jesus will mean a heart broken for ever from allegiance to any other person or thing. Has Jesus ever looked at you? The look of Jesus transforms and transfixes. Where you are soft with God is where the Lord has looked at you. If you are hard and vindictive, insistent on your own way...it is an indication that there are whole tracts of your nature that have never been transformed by His gaze...The only good thing from Jesus Christ's point of view is union with Himself and nothing in between.



Satisfied (by Clara T. Williams)

All my life I had a longing
For a drink from some clear spring,
That I hoped would quench the burning
Of the thirst I felt within.

Feeding on the husks around me,
Till my strength was almost gone,
Longed my soul for something better,
Only still to hunger on.

Poor I was, and sought for riches,
Something that would satisfy,
But the dust I gathered round me
Only mocked my soul's sad cry.

Hallelujah! I have found Him
Whom my soul so long has craved!
Jesus satisfies my longings,
Thro' His blood I now am saved.

Well of water, ever springing,
Bread of life so rich and free,
Untold wealth that never faileth,
My Redeemer is to me.



Closing Thoughts...

Clay continues in the long slow process of recovery to regain both physical and emotional strength. He is still weaker than he wants to be, yet embraces the day by day needed exercises that are making a difference, although slower than he wants to see. One day at a time. Baby steps. God is good - all the time. We so much appreciate your prayers. They are the best gift ever!

In His Light and Joy, Clay and Mary



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