

MEDITATION ON SATISFACTION

Noah Webster defines satisfaction as, *that state of mind which results from the full gratification of desire*. As I meditate on this word, it soon becomes apparent that I am not and never can be satisfied in this life. First of all, I have many desires. Therefore, if one desire is fully and completely satisfied, there are several more that remain unfulfilled. Secondly, my desires change daily. Things that were not important yesterday are all-consuming today and the pressing wants of today fade when faced with the new challenges of tomorrow. Thirdly, my desires, upon fulfillment, rarely bring satisfaction because they are of the flesh. I can relate to the Israelites who lusted exceedingly in the wilderness for something that was not in their best interest (meat) and for which they had no need. Then, when God fulfilled their desire, their last condition was worse than the first.

Psalm 106:15

And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.

It is interesting to note that the word satisfied is found forty-four times in the Bible and forty of those times it is either future; i.e. *shall be* satisfied, or negative; i.e. *not* satisfied. The remaining four times depict only temporary satisfaction. What does this say to us? Can we not ever be satisfied? Are we doomed to the desperate condition of unfulfillment? Should we “mortify” all desires and lapse into a state of apathy to be able to cope with the depressing situation of unrealized expectations?

In my monthly schedule for reading through the Psalms, today’s reading is appropriately applicable.

Psalm 17:15

As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

There are three parts to this verse that answer all my disturbing questions. First, I shall be satisfied! My assessment has been correct; perfect and complete satisfaction is yet to come, *but it will come!* Second, my corruptible, sin-filled body is a hindrance to the blessed state of full gratification and therefore, I must wait for the sound of the trumpet, when I shall awake with His likeness. And third and most blessed of all, every desire shall be fulfilled, every expectation realized and everything within me perfectly satisfied when I gaze on His wonderful face.

There is, however, another even more wonderful delight awaiting me. This thought is so disturbing I hardly dare think it, and yet I know it to be true. This entire meditation has been about me; my desires, my fulfillment, my satisfaction. But the thought occurs to me that the Lord Himself is not yet *completely satisfied*. Just as the first Adam was alone “in his kind” without Eve, likewise is the second Adam. The delight awaiting me which outshines every thought, which thrills my soul and excites my hope, has little to do with my own satisfaction at all. What I long for beyond all else is to see the complete satisfaction of my Lord when He is at long last presented with His beautiful, blood-bought bride. All the unrealized hopes of eternity fulfilled, *in the twinkling of an eye*.