

## **"Complacency"...a dangerous place to be**

**Complacency** - (Hebrew) shalvah (shal-vaw') security (genuine or false): (abundance, peace (-ably), prosperity, quietness.)  
(Greek) batak (baw-takh') to hide for refuge; figuratively, to trust, be confident or sure:

**This parable displays the dangers to a complacent Christian** - Matt 25:14-30 - 14 "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. 15 To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. 16 The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. 17 So also, the one with the two talents gained two more. 18 But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. 20 The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.' 21 "His master replied, **'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'** 22 "The man with the two talents also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.' 23 "His master replied, **'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'** 24 "Then the man who had received the one talent came. 'Master,' he said, **'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'** 26 "His master replied, **'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? 27 Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. 28'** "Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. 29 For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. 30 And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

### **What constitute Spiritual complacency?**

**Complacency is trusting in anything else but the Lord** - Jer 17:5 - 5 This is what the Lord says: "Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who depends on flesh for his strength and whose heart turns away from the Lord.

### **Our Christian walk requires us to be proactive not complacent –**

2 Peter 1:3-9 - 3 **His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.** 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. 5 **For this very reason, make every effort to** add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; 6 and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; 7 and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. 8 For **IF you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.** 9 But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins.

2 Peter 1:10-14 - 10 Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For **IF you do these things, you will never fall,** 11 and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 12 So I will always remind you of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you now have. 13 I think it is right to refresh your memory as long as I live in the tent of this body, 14 because I know that I will soon put it aside, as our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me.

### **\* Complacency comes from: Desire, Fear, & Laziness**

#### **What are the dangers of Spiritual complacency?**

**Part of the sin that got Sodom destroyed was complacency** - Ezek 16:49-50 - 49 "Now this was the sin of your sister Sodom: She and her daughters were arrogant, overfed and unconcerned; they did not help the poor and needy. 50 They were haughty and did detestable things before me. **Therefore I did away with them** as you have seen.

**God does not approve of a complacent church** - Rev 3:14-19 - 14 "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. 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.

**Complacency leads to destruction** - Prov 1:32 - 32 For the waywardness of the simple will kill them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them;

**This prophecy shows God's response to Israel's complacency** - Zeph 1:12-13 - 12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps and punish those who are complacent, who are like wine left on its dregs, who think, 'The Lord will do nothing, either good or bad.' 13 Their wealth will be plundered, their houses demolished. They will build houses but not live in them; they will plant vineyards but not drink the wine.

**Relying on the unreliable is a painful outcome**-Prov 25:19 Like a bad tooth or a lame foot is reliance on the unfaithful in times of trouble.

**The complacent life is meaningless** -Ps 49:10-13 - 10 For all can see that wise men die; the foolish and the senseless alike perish and leave their wealth to others. 11 Their tombs will remain their houses forever, their dwellings for endless generations, though they had named lands after themselves. 12 But man, despite his riches, does not endure; he is like the beasts that perish. 13 **This is the fate of those who trust in themselves, and of their followers, who approve their sayings.**

#### **How not to be Spiritually complacent.**

**\*Example that shows Difference between content and complacent:**

A complacent person tries to avoid undesirable situations weather it's their responsibility or not, while a content person adjusts to any situation.

**Contentment is one of the most valuable attributes one can have** - 1 Tim 6:6-10 - 6 But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. 9 People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

**We must find security in the grace of God in order to deal with undesirable situations** - 2 Cor 12:9-10 - 9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. 10 That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

**Being content is a learned quality that we get from Christ** - Phil 4:11-13 - 11 I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. 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. 13 I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

**Be content with your pay** - Luke 3:14 - 14 Then some soldiers asked him, "And what should we do?" He replied, "Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely — be content with your pay."

**Don't allow yourself to love money and what it can do** - Heb 13:5 - 5 Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

**God has to be our lone purpose** - Matt 6:19-21 - 19 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For **where your treasure is, there your heart will be also**.

**Our spiritual guidance must come from those that depend on God only** - Phil 3:2-3 - 2 Watch out for those dogs, those men who do evil, those mutilators of the flesh. 3 For it is we who are the circumcision, we who worship by the Spirit of God, who glory in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh

**We must continue our lives through faith and patience** - Heb 6:9-12 - 9 Even though we speak like this, dear friends, we are confident of better things in your case — things that accompany salvation. 10 God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. 11 We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, in order to make your hope sure. 12 We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

**Warn and avoid those that are Spiritually complacent** -2 Thess 3:6-10 - 6 In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers, to **keep away from every brother who is idle** and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. 7 For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, 8 nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. 9 We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to make ourselves a model for you to follow. 10 For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat."

**Make sure God is your shelter and protection** - Ps 118:8-9 - 8 It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man. 9 It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.

**Don't trust men no matter their position** - Ps 146:3-4 - 3 **Do not put your trust in princes**, in mortal men, who cannot save. 4 When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing.

**Let us get our acts together we have work to do** - Heb 12:11-13 - 11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. 12 Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. 13 "Make level paths for your feet," **so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed**.