

THE BOOK OF 1 TIMOTHY

“Godliness With Contentment”
(1 Timothy 6:5-10)

“Godliness With Contentment”

(1 Timothy 6:5-10)



- Introduction / Greeting (1:1-7)
- The Lawful Use of the Law (1:5-11)
- Paul : A Pattern (1:12-17)
- Fight the good fight (1:18-20)
- Pray for leaders (2:1-7)
- Behavior of in the church (2:8-15)
- Qual. of elders / Deacons (3:1-13)
- Behavior in God's House (3:14-16)
- The Great Apostasy (4:1-6)
- The Preachers Work (4:6-16)
- Treatment of One Another (5:1-25)
- “Treatment of Elders ...” (5:17–25)
- “Godliness NOT A Means To Earthly Gain” (1 Timothy 6:1–5)

1 Timothy 6:5–10 (NKJV)

⁵ useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a *means of* gain. From such withdraw yourself. ⁶ Now godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into *this* world, *and it is* certain we can carry nothing out. ⁸ And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. ⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all *kinds of* evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

“Godliness With Contentment”

(1 Timothy 6:5-10)

WE ARE TO BE A “FUNCTIONAL” FAMILY

Paul presents a contrast between the erroneous view mentioned in 6:5 and the actual truth found in 6:6,7.



FALSE



1 Timothy 6:5 (NKJV)

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TRUE

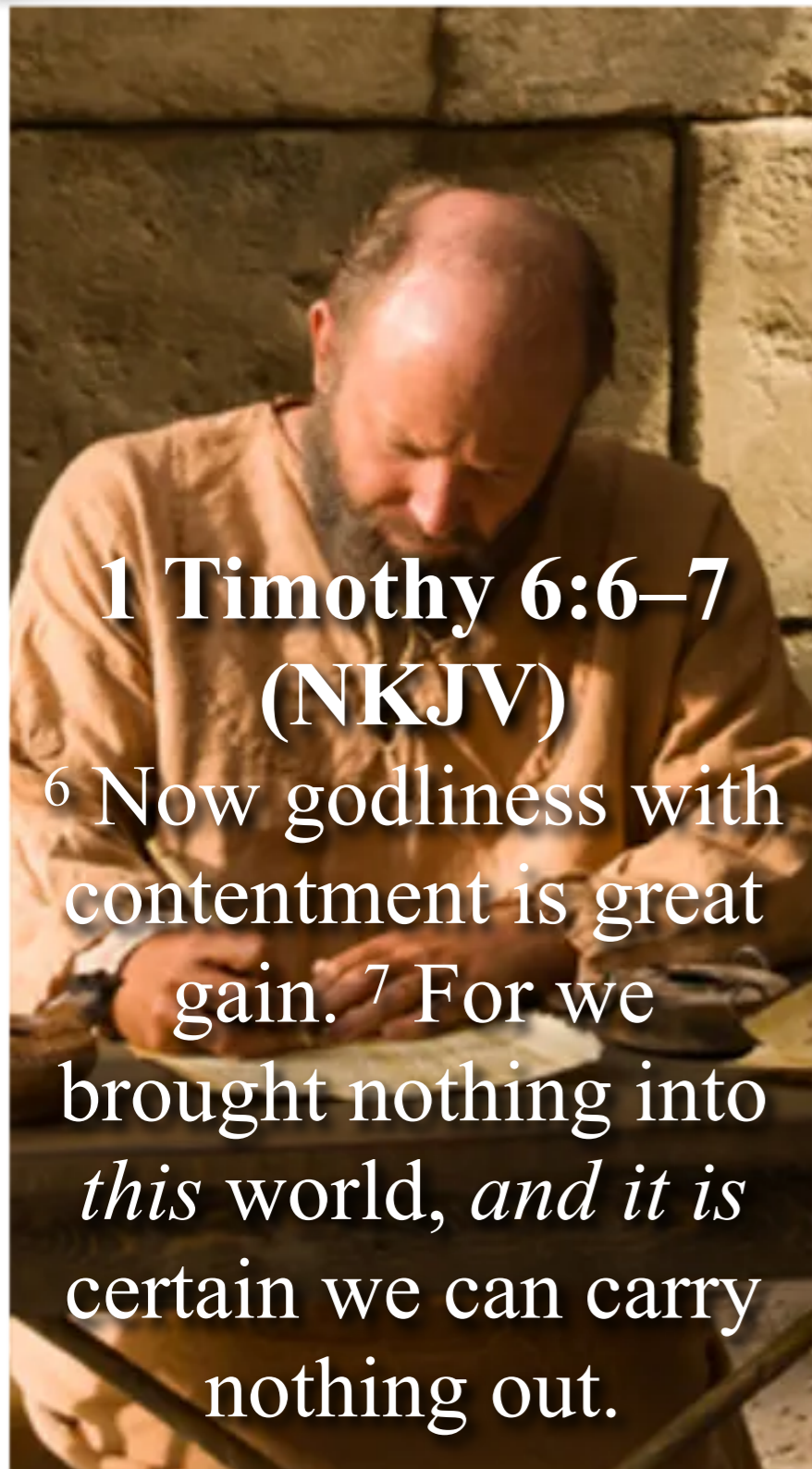


1 Timothy 6:6–7 (NKJV)

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“Godliness With Contentment”

(1 Timothy 6:5-10)



1 Timothy 6:6–7
(NKJV)

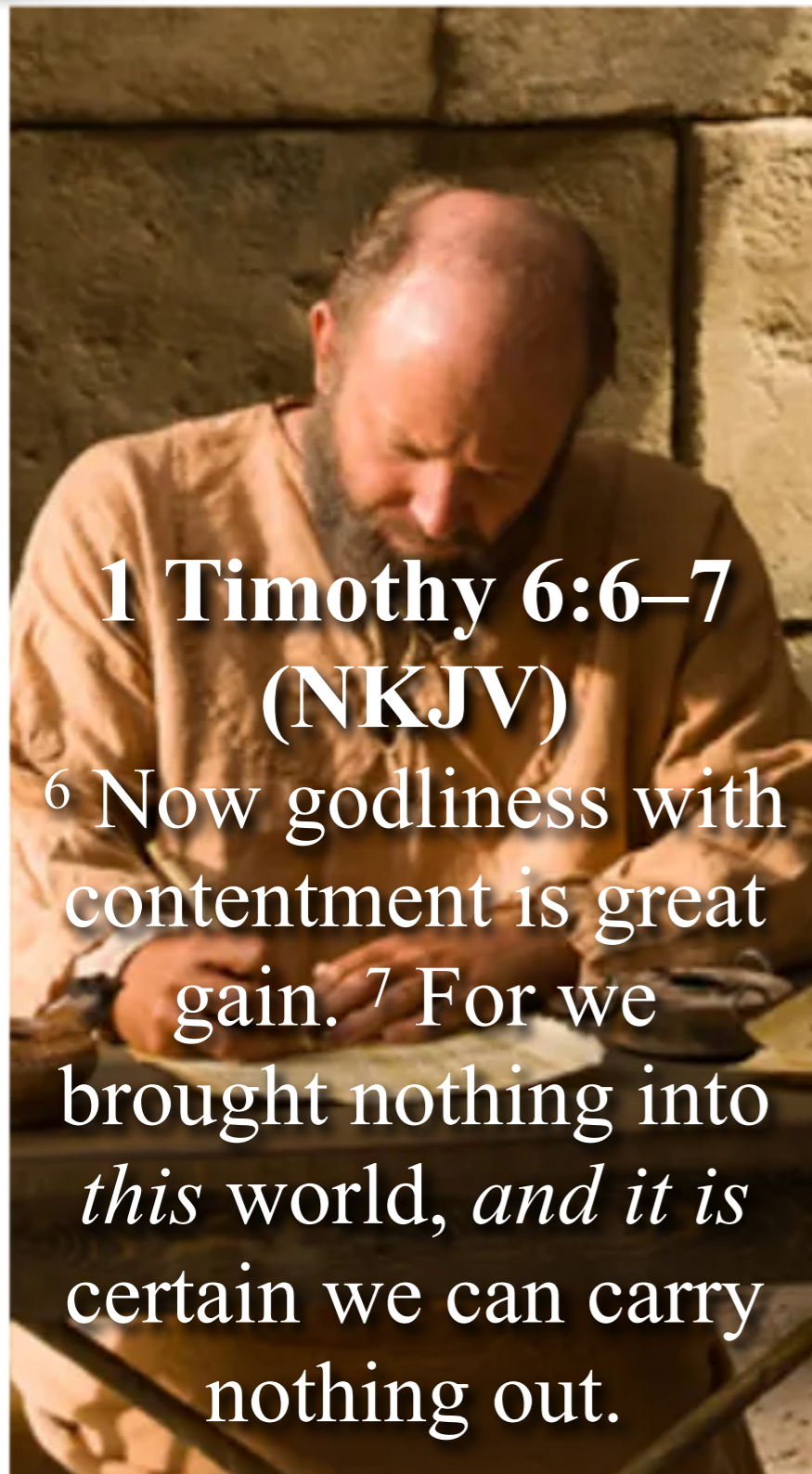
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■ GODLINESS W/ CONTENTMENT (5,6)

- ▶ “**NOW ... IS**” : denotes contrast between what has been stated and what is about to be stated.
- ▶ **GODLINESS** : **eusebeia** (εὐσέβεια, 2150), “denotes that piety which, characterized by a Godward attitude, does that which is well-pleasing to Him.” [Vines]
- ▶ **CONTENTMENT** : *autarkeia* (αὐτάρκεια, 841) the state of being content with one’s circumstances or lot in life [Lou Nida]

“Godliness With Contentment”

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**1 Timothy 6:6–7
(NKJV)**

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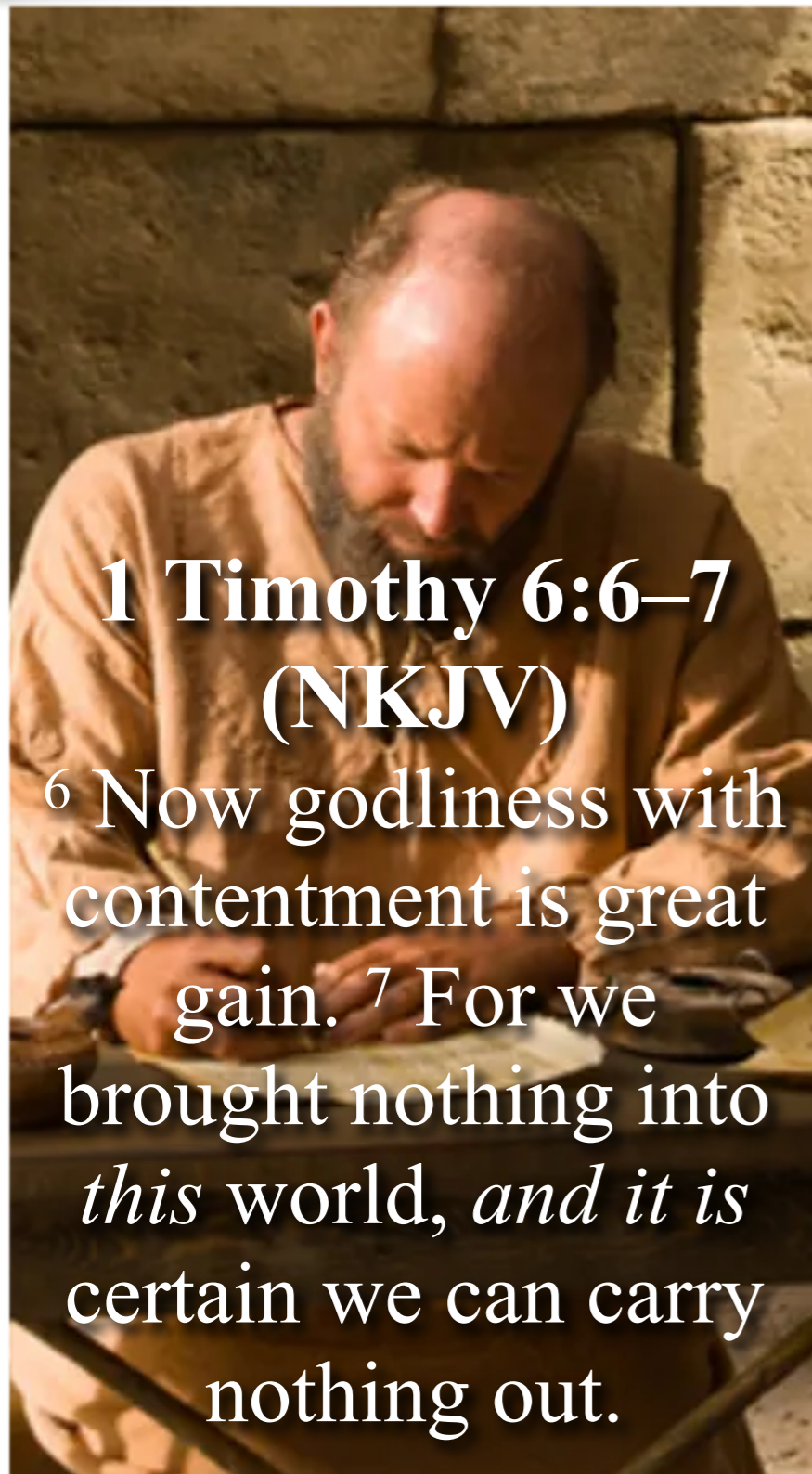
■ GODLINESS W/ CONTENTMENT (5,6)

► **CONTENTMENT** : *autarkeia*
(αὐτάρκεια, 841) the state of being content with one's circumstances or lot in life [Lou Nida]

“Contentment is literally self-sufficiency. A state of contentment makes one independent of outward circumstances, satisfied with one's inner resources, enabling one to maintain a spiritual equilibrium in the midst of favorable as well as unfavorable circumstances. It is not a stoical indifference to or contempt for material needs” (Hiebert p. 112).

“Godliness With Contentment”

(1 Timothy 6:5-10)



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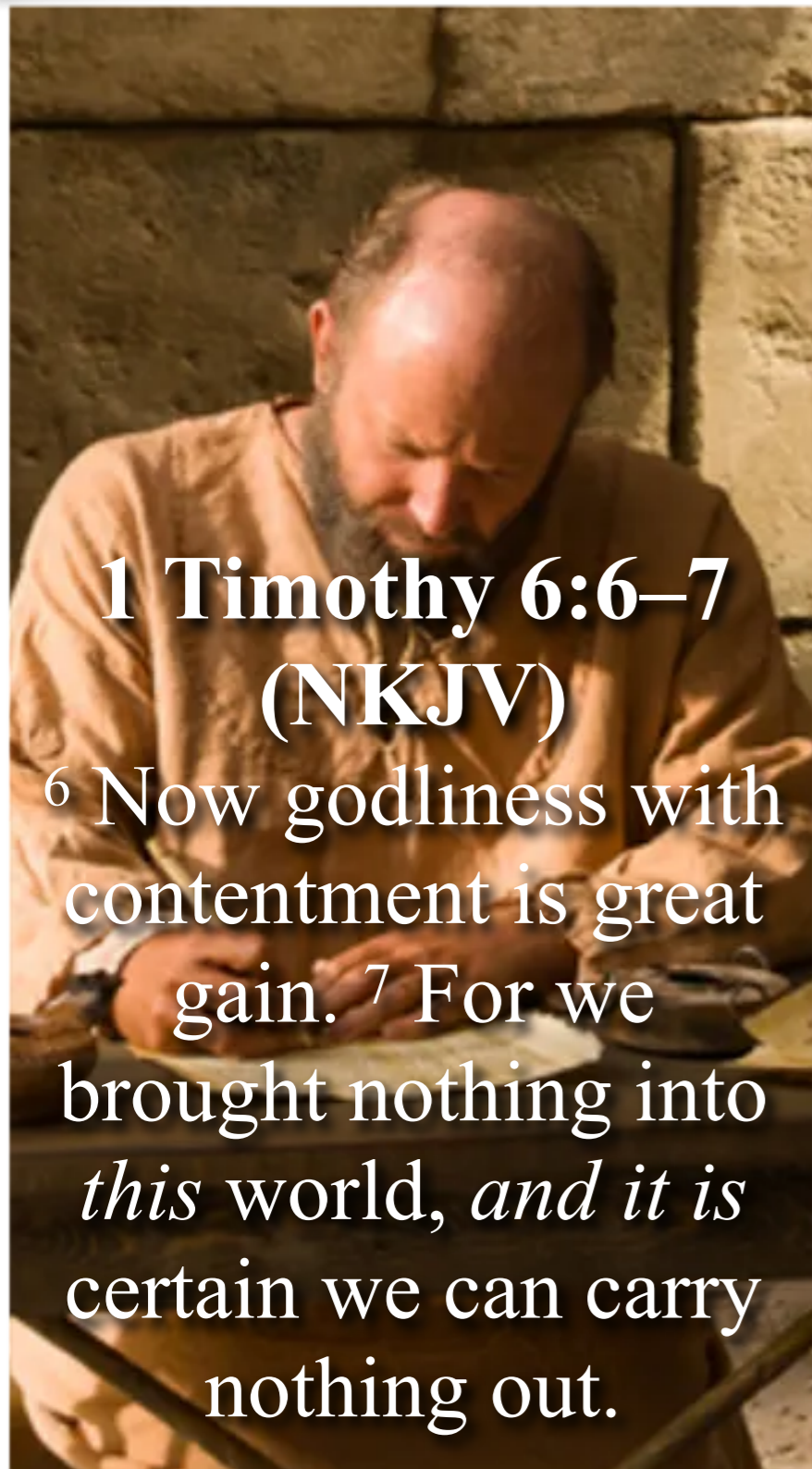
■ GODLINESS W/ CONTENTMENT (5,6)

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“The Christian can be self-sufficient because his sufficiency is rooted and grounded in God's all-sufficiency and rests with assurance upon God's providential care. Such contentment naturally belongs to true godliness. ... devotion to God is the first condition of this true satisfaction, and contentedness with an earthly lot the second.”
(Hiebert p. 112).

“Godliness With Contentment”

(1 Timothy 6:5-10)



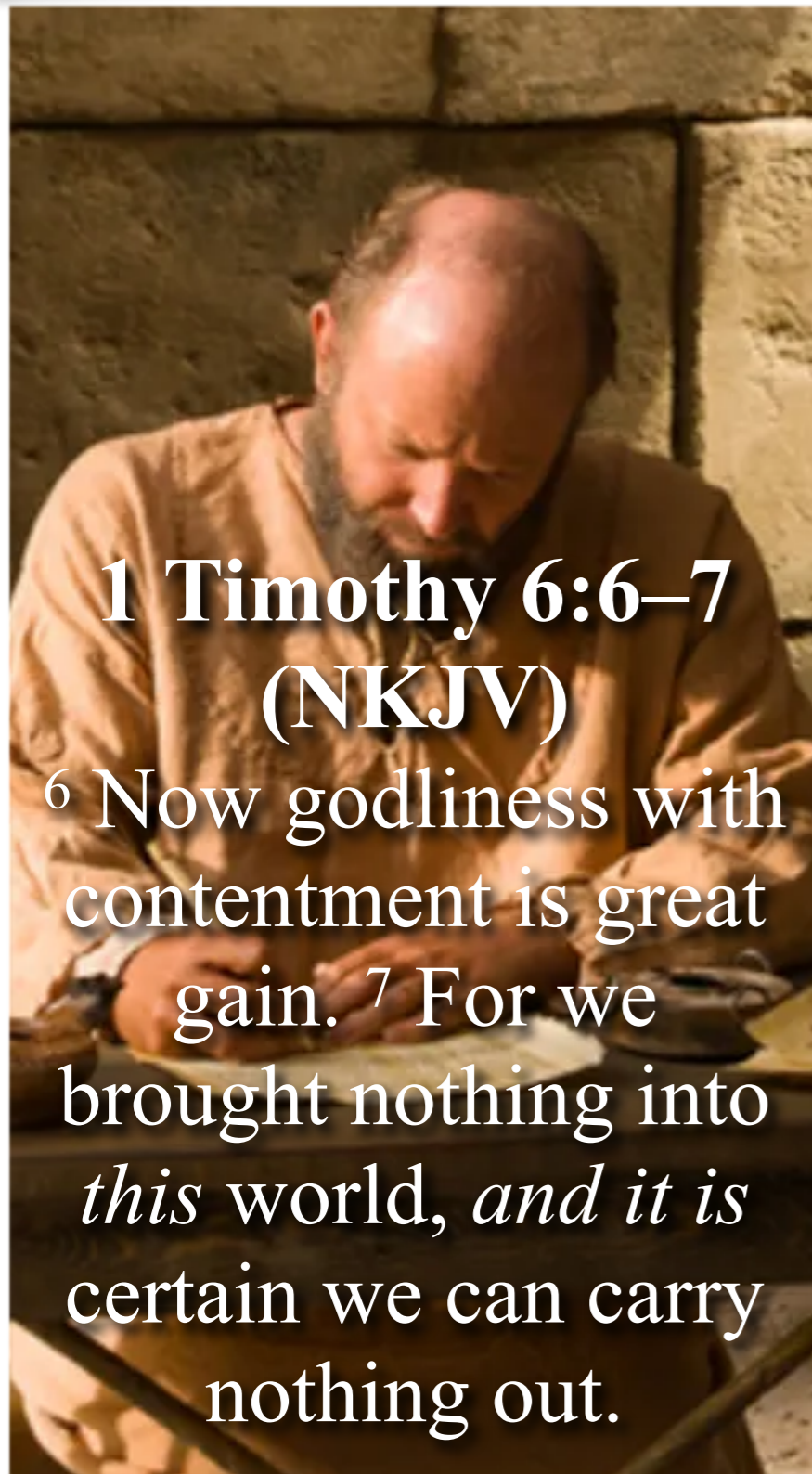
■ GODLINESS W/ CONTENTMENT (5,6)

► **CONTENTMENT** : *autarkeia*
(αὐτάρκεια, 841) the state of being content with one's circumstances or lot in life [Lou Nida]

- **“GAIN”** : The godly man is rich indeed! God has given him true riches which he will keep (Mat. 6:19-21)
- An attitude that seeks to please God first combined with a trust that God will provide (Matthew 6:33) is an eternal investment in the greatest wealth available!

“Godliness With Contentment”

(I Timothy 6:5-10)



1 Timothy 6:6–7 (NKJV)

⁶ Now godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into *this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.*

■ GODLINESS W/ CONTENTMENT (5,6)

Paul is not praising poverty here nor is he condemning those who have wealth. “He is declaring that in contrast to the mercenary attitude of the false teachers, ‘godliness accompanied by contentment’ is greater riches than all the offerings collected by the false teachers. Paul himself had learned such contentment (Philippians 4:11-13). Godliness of the right kind, then, with no mercenary thought of its being used as a steppingstone to wealth or worldly acclaim, but coupled with a pure conscience and peace of soul, will furnish satisfaction far beyond anything this world can offer. This is great gain” (Reese p. 273).

“Godliness With Contentment”

(I Timothy 6:5-10)



**1 Timothy 6:6–7
(NKJV)**

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GODLINESS W/ CONTENTMENT (5,6)



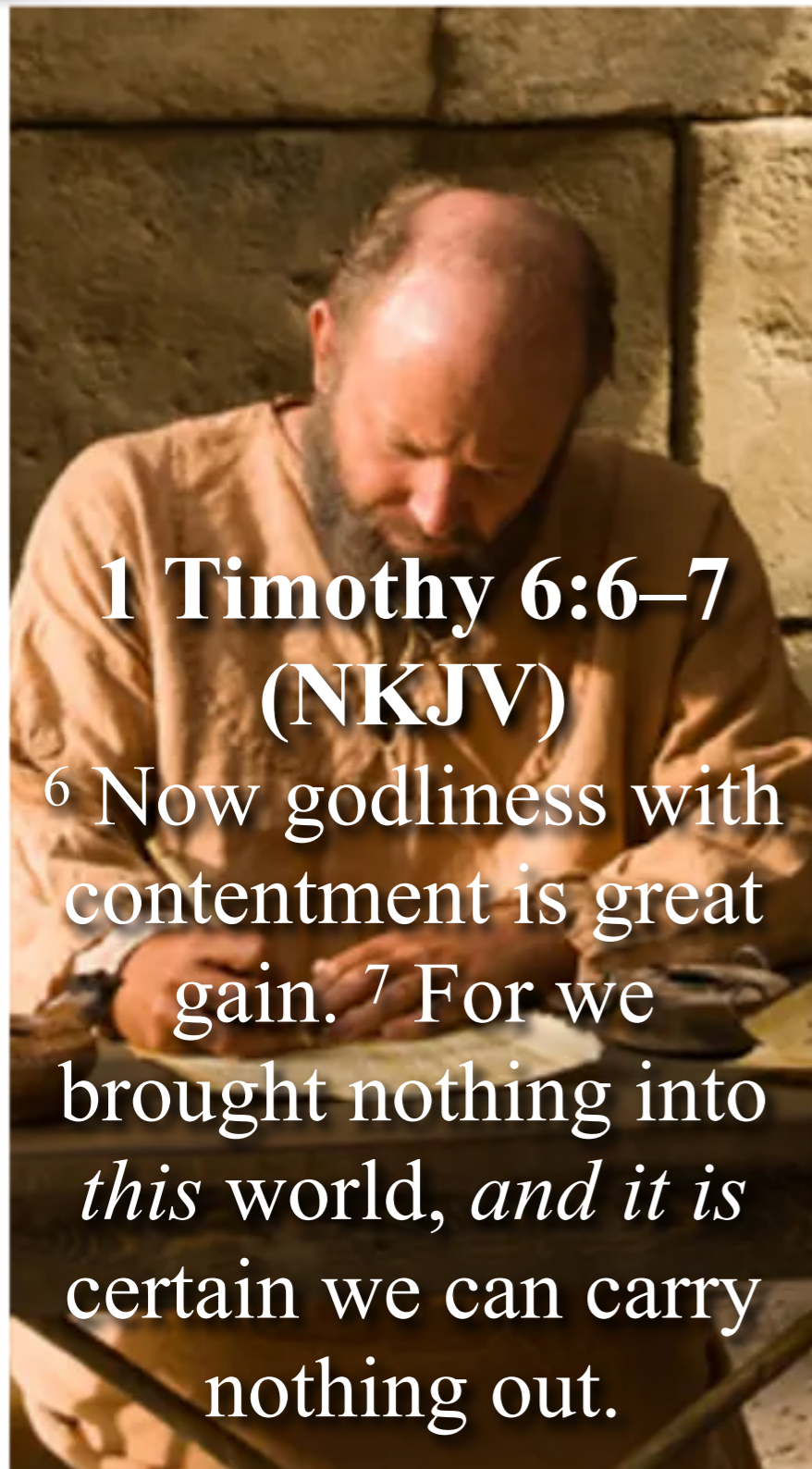
WHY? - because of the folly of acquiring material things - ⁷ For we brought nothing into *this* world, *and it is* certain we can carry nothing out.

Job 1:21 (NKJV)

²¹ And he said: “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, And naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord.”

“Godliness With Contentment”

(I Timothy 6:5-10)



**1 Timothy 6:6–7
(NKJV)**

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GODLINESS W/ CONTENTMENT (5,6)



WHY? - because of the folly of acquiring material things - ⁷ For we brought nothing into *this* world, *and it is* certain we can carry nothing out.

Psalms 49:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ For when he dies he shall carry nothing away; His glory shall not descend after him.

“Godliness With Contentment”

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**1 Timothy 6:6–7
(NKJV)**

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GODLINESS W/ CONTENTMENT (5,6)



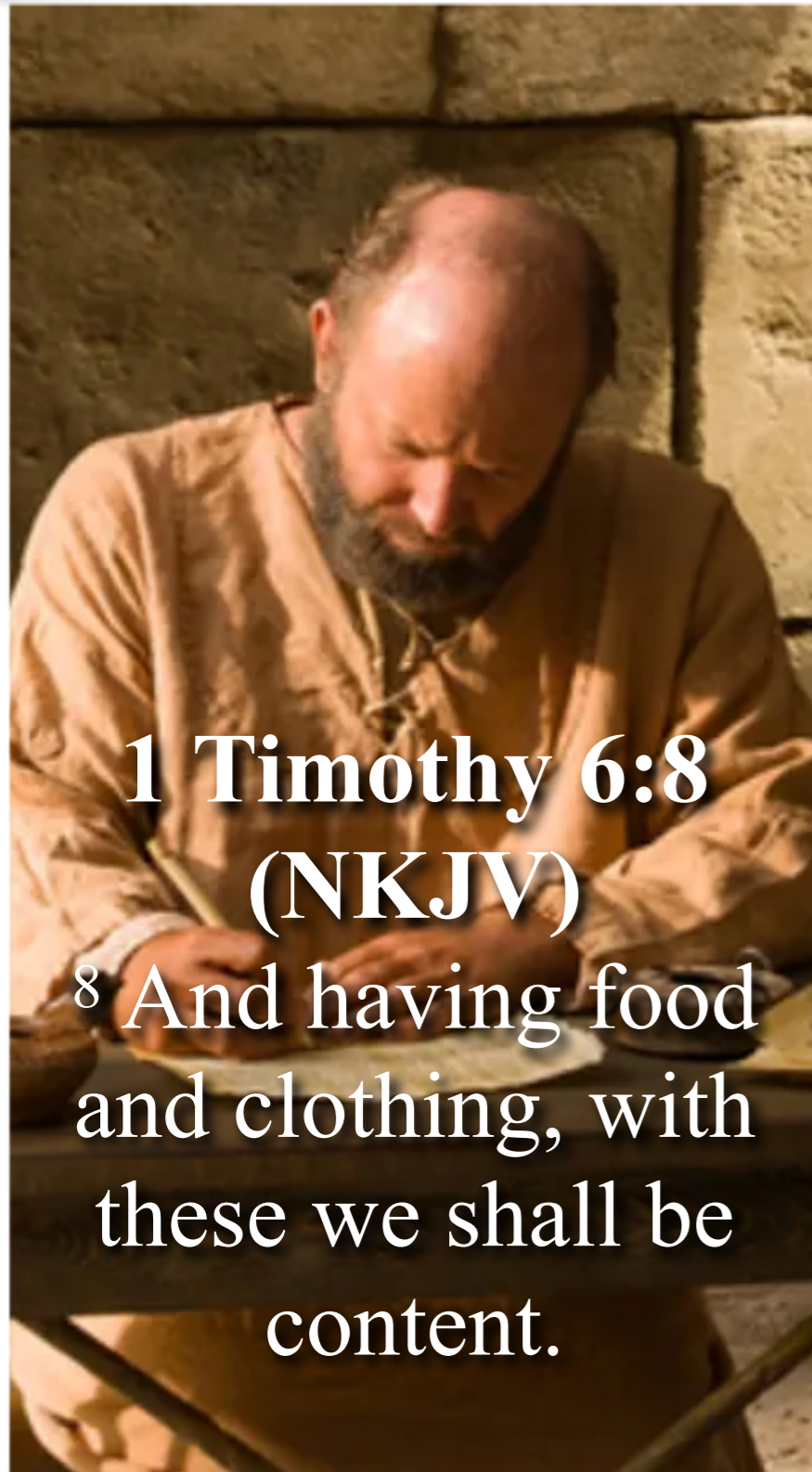
WHY? - because of the folly of acquiring material things - ⁷ For we brought nothing into *this* world, *and it is* certain we can carry nothing out.

Ecclesiastes 5:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ As he came from his mother's womb, naked shall he return, To go as he came; And he shall take nothing from his labor Which he may carry away in his hand.

“Godliness With Contentment”

(I Timothy 6:5-10)



**1 Timothy 6:8
(NKJV)**

**8 And having food
and clothing, with
these we shall be
content.**

■ BE CONTENT WITH: (8)

- ▶ **“FOOD & CLOTHING”** : The term “covering” here includes both clothing and shelter. “Clothing or a house” (Arndt p. 753).
- The necessities of life stand in contrast to the gain sought by the false teachers of the preceding verses and those who “will be rich” of the following verse. (cf. Mat. 6:25-34)
- Compare w/ Heb. 13:5; Prov. 30:8-9; Phili. 4:11-13. These verses certainly tests our level of faith.

“Godliness With Contentment”

(I Timothy 6:5-10)



1 Timothy 6:9 (NKJV)

⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.

■ PERILS OF COVETOUSNESS (9,10)

▶ “THOSE WHO DESIRE TO BE RICH” :

The opposite mindset just set forth by Paul.

- DESIRE denotes greed, avarice - one has set their affections on the things of this world (Col. 3:1,2; 1 Jn 2:15-17)
- There is great danger in seeking wealth as the prime end of life (Mat. 13:22; 19:22; 26:15. Ja. 5:1-4. 2 Pe. 2:15, 16. Jude 11).

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■ PERILS OF COVETOUSNESS (9,10)

▶ “THOSE WHO DESIRE TO BE RICH FALL INTO” : “fall” is in the present tense, i.e., a continual falling.

- **Temptation:** Evil paths to attain our desires are always present (Jam. 1:13-15)
- **Snare:** a trap (cf. Prov. 1:17-19; 28:20; Matt. 13:22).
- **Many foolish & harmful lusts:** sinful motives & desires that are bad for us are multiplied (2 Pet. 2:12-17)

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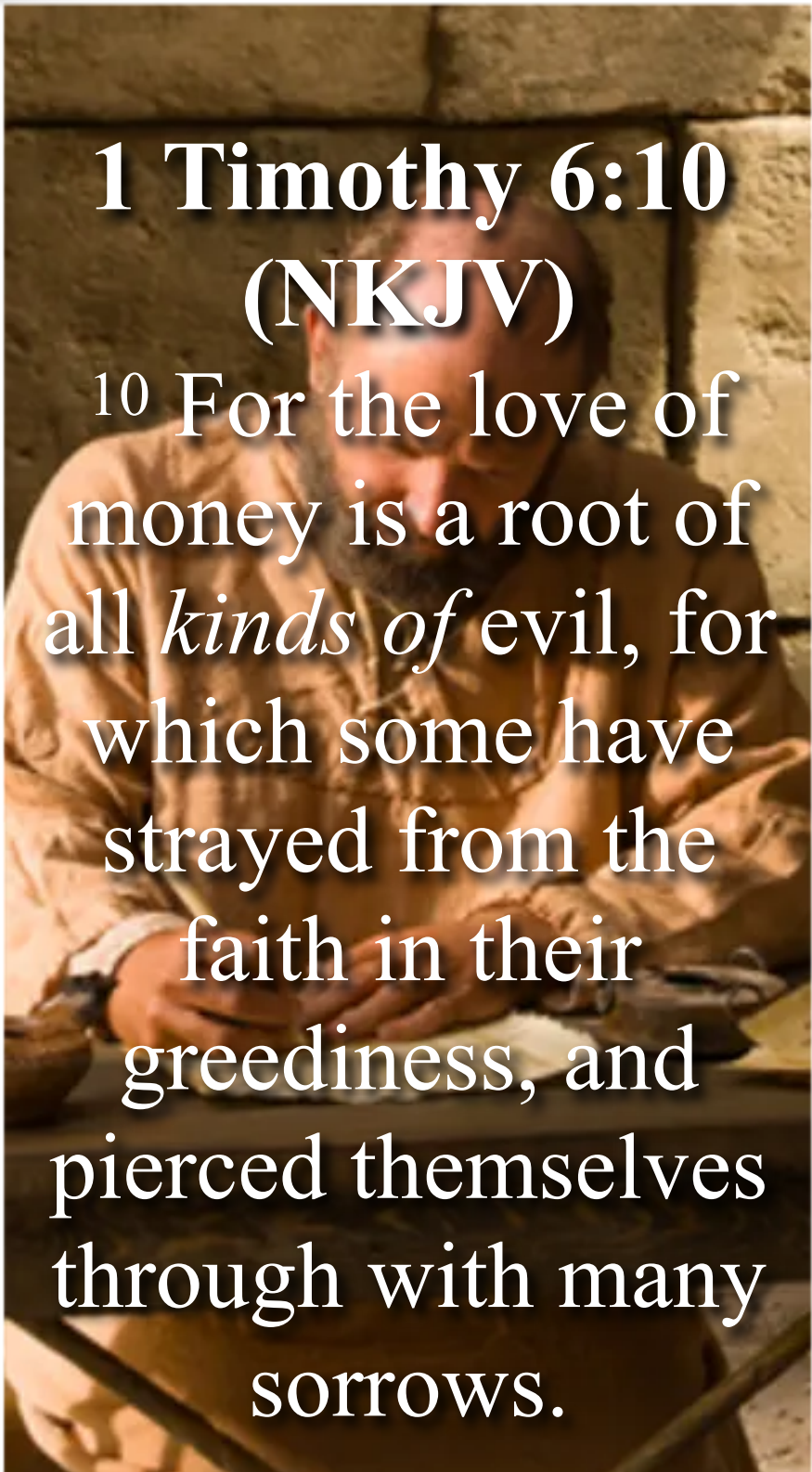
■ PERILS OF COVETOUSNESS (9,10)

▶ “WHICH DROWN MEN IN DESTRUCTION AND PERDITION” :

- The term rendered “plunge” or “drown” refers not merely to a person drowning, but of a wreck, where the ship & all that is in it go down together (Barnes p. 199)
- The terms “ruin” and “destruction” refer to utter ruin. - The total ruin of happiness, virtue, reputation, marriage, family and the destruction that awaits in eternity. (2 Pet. 2:12-17)

“Godliness With Contentment”

(1 Timothy 6:5-10)

A man with a beard, wearing a brown robe, is seated and writing in a scroll with a quill. The background is a textured, stone-like wall.

**1 Timothy 6:10
(NKJV)**

¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all *kinds of* evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

■ PERILS OF COVETOUSNESS (9,10)

► **“FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY IS A ROOT OF ALL KINDS OF EVIL” :**

- Money itself is not evil, and neither is greed “the” root of all evil, rather, greed is simply “a” root of evil, other roots do exist.
- It is not the possession of things, but the love of the things we possess that leads men into temptation.
- Jesus taught the same truth (Matthew 6:24).

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■ PERILS OF COVETOUSNESS (9,10)

► “FOR WHICH SOME HAVE STRAYED FROM THE FAITH IN THEIR GREEDINESS”

- Balaam (2 Pet. 2:15,16; Num. 22)
- Gehazi (2 Kings 5:20-27)
- Rich younger ruler (Mt. 19:16–26)
- Rich fool (Lk 12:13-21)
- Rich man & Lazarus (Lk 16:19-31)
- Judas betrayed Jesus and committed suicide (Ac. 1:16–19)
- Ananias & Sapphira (Ac 5:1-11)
- Demas (2 Ti. 4:10)

“Godliness With Contentment”

(I Timothy 6:5-10)



FAILURE TO

RESPECT ONE ANOTHER,

EXHORT ONE ANOTHER,

HONOR AND SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER

FULFILL ONE'S INDIVIDUAL OBLIGATIONS

DEAL FAIRLY & JUSTLY

SEEK MATERIAL GAIN INSTEAD OF CHRIST

**IS a FAILURE TO
RESPECT AND
HONOR CHRIST!**

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“Godliness With Contentment”

(1 Timothy 6:5-10)

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Philippians 4:10–13 (NKJV)

¹⁰ But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity. ¹¹ Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: ¹² I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. ¹³ I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.