

A Holy Dissatisfaction

*"It's not that I have already reached this goal or have already become perfect.
But I keep pursuing it, hoping somehow to embrace it
just as I have been embraced by the Messiah."*

Philippians 3:12 ISV

I recall a certain preacher who was constantly talking about his wonderful and highly successful life as a Christian.

He was regularly assuring those who would listen that he was "fully surrendered" to the Lord. His boasting was attractive from one angle—as we all wish to be "fully surrendered" to the Saviour.

I decided to investigate the man's history and sadly discovered he was a failure in each church where he sought to be a leader. Undoubtedly what we were really hearing from him was his desire to be "fully surrendered".

It was an admirable goal but, as we read the pages of Scripture, we quickly learn that the believers who were most spiritually prosperous were those who humbly took the lower seat in the fellowship of faith.

Godly people do not boast

of their accomplishments, rather they have a holy dissatisfaction with their attainments and keep on striving for a closer walk with the only One Who is truly "fully surrendered".

As Paul wrote this book of the New Testament, he was an accomplished and highly successful preacher of the Good News.

Perhaps he had done more to build the infant church than any other first century Christian preacher. Yet he was restless. He knew he had not arrived at complete surrender and would never be spiritually perfect until he was translated into heaven.

As a Christian, you should guard against a spirit of smug satisfaction concerning where you are at in your spiritual development. Like Paul, you need this urgent spirit of concern to be a better Christian today than you were yesterday. We are

to always seek a higher level of accomplishment than we presently have.

Do not be discouraged at the fact you are not "super Christian". Rather, take satisfaction in the knowledge you are steadily improving. Progress, not perfection, is what we can accomplish in our Christianity.

Take a few moments and reflect on where you were a year ago and where you are today. Don't you see some measure of growth in grace and the knowledge of the Lord?

Now turn your heart to the Saviour and tell Him you wish to take further steps toward His perfection. Ask for grace to keep on growing into His image. May your holy dissatisfaction draw you nearer to your beloved Saviour. Come to Him and come now.

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