

a balance between capacity for what you have and the enjoyment of what you have.

- i. Sharing the happiness of God must be distinguished from the misery encountered in the frantic search for happiness. Perfect happiness comes to the believer who executes the protocol plan, but there is no happiness to the believer involved in the frantic search for happiness.
- j. The frantic search for happiness finds the believer going in the direction of the trends of his old sin nature. Legalism unchecked results in moral degeneracy. Antinomianism unchecked results in immoral degeneracy.

Hebrews 13:5 Let your lifestyle be free from the love for money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." [**Deuteronomy 31:6**]

- k. You cannot be content with what you have unless you have maximum doctrine resident in your soul. This contentment begins with spiritual self-esteem, moves into spiritual autonomy, and reaches its peak in spiritual maturity.

To be content with what you have is the status of true happiness, which comes from capacity in the soul. Capacity in the soul comes from Bible doctrine.

- l. The vacuum in the soul is the opposite of this, and inevitably results in the frantic search for happiness.

1 Timothy 6:6 But godliness is a means of great gain when accompanied by the contentment of perfect happiness.

v. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, with the result that we can take nothing out of it.

v. 8 And if we have food and clothing, with these we shall be content.

- m. Contentment is something you learn through perception, facilitation, and application of Bible doctrine.

Philippians 4:11 Not that we speak on the basis of want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.

- n. The thing that improves with spiritual growth is your capacity for life, love, and happiness. The only thing that is different with the attainment of spiritual adulthood is that you have capacity to enjoy whatever you have.

- o. Advance in the protocol plan of God always provides the balance between your capacity for what you have and the enjoyment of what you have.
- p. The ultimate solution to the problems of life is occupation with Christ which provides the capacity for life.
 - (1) The mystery doctrines of the Church Age must be your number one priority.
 - (2) Concentrate on priority number one.
 - (3) Organize your life around priority number one.
 - (4) Organize your thinking around priority number one.
 - (5) Then you have capacity which increases, producing contentment, not with what you have, but with the doctrine in your soul.
- q. Wrong priorities cause the frantic search for happiness:
 - (1) If your number one priority is romance, friendship, business, success, or social life, you concentrate on that number one priority.
 - (2) You organize your life around that number one priority.
 - (3) You organize your thinking around that number one priority.
 - (4) You become involved in the frantic search for happiness.
- r. The vacuum of the soul which produces emptiness, futility, and nothingness creates a demand for happiness in your life to replace what is missing in your life; i.e., the mystery doctrines for the Church Age.
- s. The frantic search for happiness becomes the alternative to the daily perception of Bible doctrine and execution of the protocol plan. Reversion and the frantic search for happiness replaces your desire for Bible doctrine. The presence of the vacuum in the soul replaces the hunger for doctrine with the lust for happiness. Once you lust for happiness, you'll never find it.
- t. The frantic search for happiness follows the trends of the sin nature in polarized fragmentation:
 - (1) The trend toward legalism results in moral degeneracy and no happiness.
 - (2) The trend toward antinomianism results in immoral degeneracy and no happiness.



- (3) The trend toward legalism includes crusader activism, self-righteous arrogance, personality arrogance, the arrogance of Christian service, irrational (emotional) arrogance, the arrogance of unhappiness (subjective preoccupation with self), iconoclastic arrogance (role model arrogance, the feet of clay syndrome), so-called “victorious living,” the arrogance of asceticism, using Christian service as a means of spirituality arrogance, personality arrogance, the arrogance of Christian service, irrational (emotional) arrogance, the arrogance of unhappiness (subjective preoccupation with self), iconoclastic arrogance (role model arrogance, the feet of clay syndrome). [See Daniel 2:31–35 and the associated Scofield footnote: “The Vision of the World Empires.”]¹
 - (4) The trend toward antinomianism is related to multifarious sexual sins, drug addiction, violence, criminality, total self-indulgence, or debauchery.
 - (5) Others seek their happiness in a false emphasis on experience, the so-called “victorious life commitment,” holy rollers speaking in tongues, and Christians who show up on an occasional Sunday to nod to God.
- u. The frantic search for happiness includes moving toward either moral or immoral degeneracy depending on the area of weakness of the old sin nature, trying to find stimulating circumstances or people, and trying to be entertained as much as possible. In this stage, true objects of love are discarded for pseudo-love objects.

Since it is human nature to want to feel superior to others, legalism is an extremely popular variety of reversionism. People actually love to be self-righteous, it gives them a sense of security and make them feel good about themselves.²

3. Operation Boomerang.

- a. The boomerang, an Australian weapon used by the Aboriginal people of Australia and the Torres Strait Islanders, is a missile-type weapon, shaped like an elbow. When thrown with accuracy, it can hit the target and kill the animal on the spot. But if they miss, the boomerang comes back to them so they can try again.

¹ *The Scofield Study Bible*, ed. Cyrus I. Scofield (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005), 1177.

² R. B. Thieme, Jr., *Reversionism*, 2d ed. (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 2000), 121.



- b. Christians who miss the target and fail to execute the protocol plan of God experience the boomerang effect of the frantic search for happiness.
- c. In this stage, the frantic search for happiness boomerangs and returns to the believer in reversionism, intensifying the original reactor factors and his unhappiness, so that the believer loses control of his life.
- d. When the frantic search for happiness boomerangs, frustration becomes greater frustration, misery becomes greater misery, and unhappiness becomes intensified unhappiness.
- e. Every search for happiness makes happiness more elusive. Therefore, the believer is bored, disillusioned, frustrated, and miserable.
- f. Pleasure, social and sexual distractions, and drug addiction only intensifies his problem in life. The same intensification of problems occurs with the distractions of the morally degenerate believer. All these only remove the believer farther away from happiness.
- g. So, the pursuit of happiness results in bad decisions from a position of weakness, and intensifies the unhappiness of the believer. This results in intensified frustration.
- h. Operation boomerang means loss of control of your life and the intensification of fragmentation and reversionism.
- i. Operation boomerang destroys any use of the problem-solving devices of the protocol plan of God. Instead of +H as a problem-solving device, the believer has perfect happiness.
 - (1) Under -H, you cannot build your happiness on the details of life; e.g., money, success, pleasure, sexual life, social life, friends, family, loved ones, or materialistic things.
 - (2) Under -H, you cannot even build your happiness on changing the devil's world through crusader arrogance, social engineering, violence, civil disobedience, or devil's world through crusader arrogance, social engineering, violence, civil disobedience, or revolution.
 - (3) In the arrogance of unhappiness, the believer assumes that marriage is a state of happiness, and all too often makes an unwise decision with regard to marriage. This boomerangs, making the marital state one of terrible unhappiness.
 - (4) Pseudo happiness depends on involvement with some form of success or stimulation which is related to a moment of time, pleasure, success, power, or approbation.