



## Daily Verse and Comment

### Ecclesiastes 6:9

(9) Better *is* the sight of the eyes than the wandering of the desire. This *is* also vanity and a striving after wind.

*A Faithful Version*

[Ecclesiastes 6:9](#) is Solomon's version of the cliché, “A bird in hand is worth two in the bush.” He is essentially saying, “It is better to have little and purposely enjoy it than to dream about much and never attain it.” A problem with dreams is that, all too often, they never become a reality. Thus, a sense of satisfaction and contentment remains unfulfilled. Solomon is not saying it is wrong to have a dream on which to spend our ambition, but that our ambition must be motivated for the glory of [God](#) and not the praise of men—including ourselves. If we think material achievements will automatically produce these qualities, we are wrong.

True satisfaction and contentment comes when we do the will of God from the heart for His glory. When that happens, we get to share in real satisfaction. In [John 4:34](#), [Jesus](#) says, “My food [meaning that which energizes Him and fills His life with satisfaction] is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.” David adds in [Psalm 16:11](#): “You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of [joy](#); at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.” That is real satisfaction and contentment. These verses reinforce the truth that satisfaction and contentment in life is within a relationship with God.

True happiness and these qualities in life do not automatically result from “making a good living.” Rather, they are a blessed byproduct of making a good life with God as our Leader. If one devotes his life to doing God's will, satisfaction and contentment will be its fruit.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

**To learn more, see:**

**[Ecclesiastes and Christian Living \(Part Seven\): Contentment](#)**

**Related Topics:**

[Ambition](#)

[Building a Relationship with God](#)

[Contentment](#)

[Contentment with Circumstances](#)

[Ecclesiastes and Christian Living](#)

[Ecclesiastes and Christian Living Contentment](#)

[God's Presence is Fullness and Joy](#)

[Material Achievement](#)

[Material Things Cannot Satisfy](#)

[Relationship with God](#)