

So The Eyes Of Man Are Never Satisfied

I. Introduction: *“Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied” (Proverbs 27:20).*

A. Taking a look at the words “Hell” and “destruction” in this verse.

1. Hell [שְׁאֵל שְׁאוּל] is defined as: “hades or the world of the dead (as if a subterranean retreat), including its accessories and inmates: - grave, hell, pit” (Strong’s # 7585). “Sheol, underworld, grave, hell, pit...” (BDB). Cf. **Deuteronomy 32:22, II Samuel 22:6, Job 11:8, Job 26:6, Psalms 9:17,** etc.

a. Translated “grave” (**Genesis 37:35, Genesis 42:38, Genesis 44:29, Genesis 44:31, I Samuel 2:6, I Kings 2:6, I Kings 2:9,** etc.).

b. Translated “pit” (**Numbers 16:30, Numbers 16:33, and Job 17:16**).

c. Solomon’s usages of this word (**Proverbs 1:12; 5:5; 7:27; 9:18; 15:11; 15:24; 23:14; 30:16, Ecclesiastes 9:10, and Song of Solomon 8:6**).

2. Destruction [וְאַבְדָּה] is defined as: “a perishing: - destruction” (Strong’s # 10). Only appears in this verse.

B. When we read in **Proverbs 27:20** the words “full” and “satisfied”, they are the same Hebrew word [שָׂבַע שָׂבַע] (Strong’s # 7646).

1. The definition: “to sate, that is, fill to satisfaction (literally or figuratively): - have enough, fill (full, self, with), be (to the) full (of), have plenty of, be satiate, satisfy (with), suffice, be weary of” (Strong’s).

2. The idea of being filled from this word: **Proverbs 25:16**

3. Think of it as of having “plenty” (**Proverbs 28:19**).

II. Body: The Lesson - Contentment (**I Timothy 6:6-10**).

A. The idea of the eyes of man in this passage and related to the subject matter of contentment can be seen in: **Proverbs 23:5, Ecclesiastes 1:8, Ecclesiastes 2:10-11, and I John 2:16.**

1. The person who just keeps looking (**Proverbs 17:24**).

2. One can have all the trees of a garden, be told not to eat from one; but because the eyes are not satisfied they give in (**Genesis 2:16-17; 3:3; 3:6**).

B. Our Lord expects us to be content (**Hebrews 13:5**).

1. To find the right balance in life (**Proverbs 30:8-9; cf. Revelation 3:14-22**).

2. To know how to have much or little (**Philippians 4:10-12**).

C. You cannot satisfy the carnal desire for more (**Ecclesiastes 5:10-16** and **Ecclesiastes 6:7**).

1. We are taught not to make provision to satisfy the flesh (**Romans 13:13-14**).

2. Why in the world would we set ourselves up against ourselves (**Galatians 5:16-17** and **I Peter 2:11**)?

D. Consider areas of life wherein we have the authority to pursue something, but have to tempter it...

1. We must work for wages (**I Thessalonians 4:11-12**), what did John teach the soldiers (**Luke 3:14**)?

2. We are certainly permitted to eat and enjoy food (**I Timothy 4:1-5**), but what about knowing when to cut it off (**Proverbs 25:27**)?

3. We are permitted to enjoy material things and even "love life" (**I Timothy 6:17** and **I Peter 3:10**), but what about loving life too much (**John 12:25**)?

4. We certainly can and should be a joyful people (**Ecclesiastes 9:9** and **Galatians 5:22**), but what about those that love pleasure (**Proverbs 21:17**, **Proverbs 23:21**, and **I Timothy 5:5-6**)?

III. Conclusion: Think of the wisdom found in an Old Testament invitation from God to unfaithful Israel (**Isaiah 55:1-3**).