

I WANT IT NOW!



People Want Things Now

- "I Want to Be Rich"
- "I Want to be Popular"
- "I Want to be Pretty"
- "I Want a Trophy Wife"
- "I Want to Be Loved"
- "I Want a Ford Mustang"
- I Want the latest gadget
(Cell Phone, Computer, TV)

Where did this attitude come from?

- Fast food (restaurant or microwave it)
 - Breaking news 24 hrs/day
 - Remote control
 - Hi-speed internet
 - Instant communication (phone, texting, instant messenger)
 - Fast travel (car, jet)
 - Buy now and pay it later

It's Not Just The Children!

Children want to have all the things their parents have worked a lifetime to achieve and they want it now!

But adults want companionship, things, and status now also.

While all these things aren't inherently sinful they can be dangerous to your soul!

“I Want It Now!”

- We will look at the dangers associated with this attitude in regard to three specific areas
 - Companionship (relationships)
 - Possessions (things)
 - Status (world)

I Want It Now!

- **Companionship**

Companionship

- Companionship is a good thing since God said, "It is not good that man should be alone, I will make a helper suitable for him" ([Genesis 2:18](#)).
- It is natural for people not to want to be lonely but to have someone they can share their feelings, hopes, and ambitions with.

Companionship

But Companionship Can Be Bad ...

- If the person is ungodly
“Bad company corrupts good morals”.
(1 Corinthians 15:33)
- If you or the other person has no right to marry. If you marry them you will commit adultery (Matthew 19:9).
- If we are impatient and not willing to wait.

Companionship

- Samson wasn't willing to wait for a godly woman to marry but instead demanded to marry an uncircumcised Philistine because of her looks ([Judges 14:2-3](#)).
- Jacob was willing to wait 7 years to marry Rachel because he loved her ([Gen. 29:20](#)).
- Joseph was willing to wait until after Jesus was born to fulfill his fleshly desires. ([Matthew 1:24-25](#))

Companionship

- Young men can be enticed by beauty and immodest dress (Pr. 7:10ff; 31:30) but married men may be tempted to sin if their wives refuse their conjugal duty. (1 Cor. 7:3-5; Matt. 19:9)
- If women do not have strong convictions about purity she may succumb to the sweet talking guy into sin because he says I love you (1 Ths. 4:3; Gen. 29:32).

Companionship

Aquila and Priscilla were a faithful couple who had worship services in their home and had the conviction together to teach a gospel preacher the word of God when he was wrong. (Acts 18:24f; 1 Co. 16:19)

Since this is the second most important decision that you make in life, you need to be patient. (cf. 1 Cor. 13:4; Jas. 5:11)

I Want It Now!

- **Companionship**
- **Things**

Things

It is not wrong to have things. God knows that we need food, clothing, and shelter to survive in this world ([Matthew 6:31-32](#)).

But it is dangerous when we have "*an excessive desire to acquire or possess more than what one needs or deserves*" and that is the definition of greed. There is a danger in "the lust of the eye."

Things

Jesus said, "Beware, and be on your guard against **every form of greed**; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions".

(Luke 12:15)

You cannot serve two masters: God and things, because you will hold on to one and despise the other (Matthew 6:24).

Things

We know what Jesus said and yet we see these things and we want them.

Because we want it now, we might consider working a job where there isn't a sound congregation, we might run up the credit card bill, or even gamble to try to attain it.

Things

The solution is simple. Focus your mind on spiritual things where Christ is seated at the right hand of God ([Colossians 3:1-4](#)).

Be content with what you have and count your many blessings ([1 Timothy 6:6](#)).

Trust in God for eternal treasures in heaven. ([1 Timothy 6:17-19](#))

I Want It Now!

- **Companionship**
- **Things**
- **Status**

Status

It is not always companions and things that we want, but also status.

While it is good to be respected in the community, we can be overly concerned about our status in the eyes of others.

The Pharisees were motivated to do their righteous deeds before others because of their concern about status ([Matt. 23:5ff](#)).

Status

But God knew their hearts and Jesus exposed their hypocrisy before all the people ([Luke 16:15](#)).

Because of concern for status, a gospel preacher may compromise the truth to please a Diotrephes ([3 John 1:9](#)).

Status

Because of a teenager's desire for status, they may decide to compromise their morals, go to the dance, the drinking parties, or mixed swimming where there is immodest dress (1 Peter 4:3).

A Christian might decide to hide his light so that he can get ahead or not lose his job. (Matthew 5:14-16)

Conclusion

It is not wrong to desire companionship, things, or status.

But if we seek companionship motivated by the lusts of the flesh, desire things because of the lust of the eyes, or status because of the pride of life we demonstrate that we are worldly.

(1 John 2:16)

Conclusion

The apostle Paul was willing to give up companionship, things, and status for the sake of knowing Christ Jesus his Lord, suffering for Him, and attaining to the resurrection of the dead ([Phil. 3:7-11](#)).

While we do have a scriptural right to marry, possess things, and have status in this world, we cannot put them above our relationship with Christ.

What about you?

Are you focused on serving God above your desire for companionship?

Are you setting your mind on things above or on the latest gadget you want?

Are you more concerned about your status before men or your status before God?

(2 Corinthians 5:10)