

God's Promises, Christian Giving & Contentment, Part 3

Today we see that Jesus supplies richly even as we give beyond ability, so that we remain content (or learn contentment) in all circumstances.

Q: Why is giving important to God?

Giving remains important to God since it reflects godly character and requires faith.

Believing God in Giving, verse 15-19.

Giving remains proportionate to faith, believing God's promises.

2 Ki. 5:16, 20. Matt. 6:21. Mark 12:41-44. 2 Co. 11:8-12; 12:11-15

Matthew 6:21 "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Mark 10:25 "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

Mark 10:27 But Jesus looked at them and said, "With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible."

Giving represents the heart of God, providing and helping, not just your own household, but also those with need.

Matt. 5:45-48. Ac. 20:33, 34-35. 1 Co. 9:12-15. Gal. 6:9-10. Eph. 4:28

Giving helps remove covetousness and builds up our most precious faith through obedience of God's promises.

Mal. 3:10. Pr. 19:17. Mat. 10:40-42; 25:34-40. Lu. 14:12-14. 1 Th. 2:5. 2 Co. 9:9-13. He. 6:10

9 points on Giving:

- 1) God owns everything. Psalms 24:1
- 2) Giving is an act of worship. Phil. 4:18
- 3) Giving reflects and builds faith in God's provisions. Phil. 4:12-14
- 4) Giving should be sacrificial and generous. 2 Sam. 24:24
- 5) Giving reflects spiritual trustworthiness. Luke 16:10-13
- 6) Giving because of love- not legalism. Phil. 4:10
- 7) Give willfully, thankfully and cheerfully. 1 Chron. 29:7-9
- 8) Giving should be planned and systematic. 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 9:5
- 9) Finally, generous giving results in bountiful blessings. Luke 6:38; Mal. 3:10

So how do I get there if I am not giving or tithing, or a generous giver?

1. Give yourself entirely to God, no reservations. Romans 12:1
2. In light of what the OT command was (minimum of 25%) a good starting point is 10%...or___?___
3. Your giving should be regular. 1 Co 16:2
4. Begin giving now. Don't put it off. The right time never seems to come.

In closing...

Learning contentment, that rare and precious jewel, requires humility and an acceptance of the sovereignty of God.

Taking a closer look...

Take a look at your own heart, and you will soon find out what has stuck to it and where your treasure is. It is easy to determine whether hearing the Word of God, living according to it, and achieving such a life gives you as much enjoyment and calls forth as much diligence from you as does accumulating and saving money and property

~Martin Luther

If our expenditures on comforts, luxuries, amusements, etc. is up to the standard common among those with the same income as our own, we are probably giving away too little. If our charities do not pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small. There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our charitable expenditure excludes them.

~C.S. Lewis

What is your faith in?



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