

# Giving to the Giver

1 Timothy 5

October 30, 2022

That will preach! We do not gather to be entertained but instructed in righteousness.

**Titanic jumpers with pockets full of gold**

**While money is an inanimate object, we are not.**

**1 Timothy 6:9-10** But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is a root of all *kinds of* evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition (judgment).

**Jeremiah 17:9** “The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked; Who can know it? (2,500 years ago)

- It can lead us to leave a marriage of decades
- It can bolster an idea of self-righteousness
- It can convince someone to kill themselves
- It can hoard up more than it needs. (in the idea of being a good steward)
  - **Good steward vs. stingy saint**

**Barns of Plenty - Luke 12:15-21**

*You can be saving when the Lord is asking you to use it.*

People who did well with their money... (Visually consider the bricks and mortar, not dollars)

## **Paul Terasaki**

\$50 Million

USC (University of Southern California)

## **David & Patricia Atkinson**

\$80 Million

Cornell University

## **Frances Brody**

\$110 Million

The Huntington Library

## **Interstate Batteries**

**Colgate Toothpaste**

**George Muller – Orphanages**

As believers, we have to stop looking at money like money... its just supplies and tools.

- Bricks to build the university
- It's art and artifacts for a museum (Instead of a check it was a truckload of art)
- It's a screen for the church (It's not money, money, money.)
- It's tools to build the kingdom

## What if I give it to the wrong person or place?

The swindler on TV. vs. the grandma who gave it.

*You are giving to God and so you are good.*

**(Hophni & Phinehas Warning)(The Ezekiel warning)**

If God is just an idea that you respect it may not mean much. But if He is the eternal God who is sovereign over all things seen and unseen then it is a terrifying reality to discover that men like Hophni & Phinehas will stand before the living God.

We will work our way toward the most important part but there is a built-in security system.

**Tracking devices on our children**

**Cameras on our doorbells**

**Sensors on our doors and windows**

**Fraud detection on our debit and credit cards**

**Giving Guards our heart**

**Proverbs 4:23** Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it *spring* the issues of life.

It may sound strange but knowing I can keep my heart in check is somewhat exciting news.

**Two Masters (Two Jobs)**

**READ Matthew 6:24** (*Followed by “don’t worry about what you will eat or wear”*)

**Treasure:** the place in which good and precious things are collected and saved.

*Wise Men: Matthew “When they had opened their treasures...*

*Not so much what is in the box as much as it is the box itself*

**Your Heart will follow your treasure**

*The American mindset is we follow our passions but really, our passions follow our dedications – As a believer, there is a reality that we should live in. The idea that we invest into our passions when in reality, we can lead our passions into the things we invest into. Marriages can be fixed with they refocus on each other.*

Our hearts follow our treasures...

**READ Matthew 6:19-21**

**How and How Much To Give**

**How To Give:**

**Generously, and Joyfully.**

**2 Corinthians 8:13-14** For *I do not mean* that others should be eased and you burdened; but by an equality, *that* now at this time your abundance *may supply* their lack, that their abundance also may *supply* your lack...

**2 Corinthians 9:5-7** Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren to go to you ahead of time, and prepare your generous gift beforehand, which *you had* previously promised, that it may be ready as *a matter of* generosity and not as a grudging obligation. But this *I* say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So *let* each one *give* as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

### How Much Do I Give?

As much as you are willing.

**What about the phrase “Tithe.”** (Should we tithe? Is it required?)  
(This is an important thing but it’s not the most important thing)

- **Part of the Mosaic Covenant/Law**
- **Tithe means tenth... they were commanded to give a tenth of their increase.**
- **It was given to tend to Tabernacle and Temple**
- **It was given and place in a storehouse for widows, orphans, and priesthood**  
Storehouse, widows, orphans, and paying their preachers... Levites.

**Jesus commends tithing... but also requires a clean heart when giving.**  
Forgiveness before worship (Phone call)

### Tithes vs. Offerings

Offerings... free will offering (above and beyond)

**Yes but... Free will offerings are not an instead of tithing but rather in addition to.**

### Tabernacle Giving had to stop - Vision Cast for CCS

A proclamation was sent and the people were restrained from giving...

2 Corinthians 8 & 9 (Generously, sacrificially, joyously)

**Not preaching the prosperity Gospel**

**Not preaching the poverty Gospel – rich young ruler**

**Preaching a message of giving to the Lord out of joyful obedience.**

**This is wonderfully between you and JESUS!**

Churches that check on your giving are absolutely insane!

Jesus turning table in the temple – not a place of extortion or profit but worship!

### Giving is Worshiping God

Salvation has been paid for... like trying to buy a car twice.

**First Fruits:** priority, plus makes it easy.

The first dollar is easier to give than your last dollar is

Worship should be a priority

Worship should be personal

Widow, her son, and the pot of flour

2 Kings 3-4 Elisha (It’s a heart and faith thing more than we realize)

Worship should be private

**READ Matthew 6:1-4**

*You should be giving where you are growing*

(Not blind generosity but God-glorifying)

*Do your give-n while your live-n*

*So your know-n where it's go-n*

**Don't Rob God of Worship**

Give to Caesar what is Caesars and to God what is God's

Do you cheat your taxes?

Do you cheat God?)

**Malachi 3:8** "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings.

**Malachi 3:10** Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this," says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you *such* blessing that *there will not be room enough to receive it*.

**We are giving to the One Who gave...**

(gentle nudge to look upward and to remember where your seeds came from.)

**2 Corinthians 9:10-11** Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have *sown* and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while *you are* enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.

A haughty farmer need only remember that even though he can plant a seed, he cannot create one.

He is not after your money... He is after your heart.  
He is a jealous God.

He gave His only Son  
While we were sinners Christ died for us