

# THE SECRET BENEFITS OF GIVING

*Presented By*

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## INTRODUCTION

Often times people are confused about the secret principles of giving. The secret in achieving the benefits of the Christian giving depends solely on the Christian attitude towards Giving. God gives liberally to everyone who comes to Him. Brethren, believe it or not, your attitude determines the kind of giving you give to God or your fellow man. This attitude manifests from the heart.

- ✓ It signifies your level of faith in God
- ✓ It manifest the trust you have in God
- ✓ It manifest to all, if you have been a good steward of what the Lord has placed in your care.

## ***BELOVED, WHAT IS YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS GIVING?***

### **WHAT DOES THE SCRIPTURES SAYS ABOUT GIVING?**

It should be the desire of every Christian, (I mean, a child of God) to know the whole truth about the path that leads to righteousness in any scriptural matter, as we journey to heaven. However, it is sad to note that thousands upon thousands of Christians have closed their ears and hearts on the subject of giving.

In **Matt. 6:1-4**, Jesus declared:

*"Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. 2 Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. 3 But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly. NKJV*

### **LET THE BIBLE SPEAK**

**1 cor. 16:1-2**, Giving as we are prospered is a command from God, and we will be lost if we disregard such command. Someone once said, attitude is just as important as truth, for truth is never understood with the wrong attitude.

In **2 Cor. 9: 6-8**, the scriptures declares;

*But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. NKJV*

### **WHY ARE SOME CHRISTIANS NOT ENJOYING THE BENEFITS OF GIVING?**

Let us consider some variety of attitudes that can lead to this.

#### **THE STINGY GIVER**

The Stingy giver has the attitude of the Children of Israel, who held back their tithes and offerings to the house of God. **Mal.3:6-10**. This is the same attitude of some Christians today, after been blessed by God, they held back which is for God.

#### **THE COVETOUS GIVER**

Some today have the same attitude of Ananias and Sapphira, who after been blessed by God, held back part of the price of their possessions, pretending to have given all to God. **Acts. 5:1-10**.

#### **GIVING GOD YOUR LEFT OVER**

In **Mal. 1:6-8**, the children of Israel disregarded the Lord, as they offered polluted things to the Lord, and the Lord was displeased with them. This is the same attitude of some Christians today, after been blessed by God, they give to God torn and polluted money as giving.

*"A son honours his father, and a servant his master. If then I am the Father, Where is My honour? And if I am a Master, Where is My reverence? Says the Lord of hosts to you priests who despise My name. Yet you say, 'In what way have we despised Your name?' "You offer defiled food on My altar, But say, 'In what way have we defiled You?' By saying, 'The table of the Lord is contemptible.' 8 And when you offer the blind as a sacrifice, Is it not evil? And when you offer the lame and sick, Is it not evil? Offer it then to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you favourably?" Says the Lord of hosts. NKJV*

#### **THE REWARD GIVER**

The attitude of the reward giver is condemned by the Lord in **Matt. 6:1 - 2**. Jesus, declared.

*"Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. 2 Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. NKJV*

## **WHAT DOES THE SCRIPTURES REQUIRED OF US TO ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF OUR SECRET GIVING?**

Our attitude for giving to God must be in-line with the commandments of God, to attract and enjoy God's favour in our giving.

In **2 Cor. 8:11-12**, the scriptures declares;

*11 but now you also must complete the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to desire it, so there also may be a completion out of what you have. 12 For if there is first a willing mind, it is accepted according to what one has, and not according to what he does not have. NKJV*

## **THE GENEROUS GIVER**

Our attitudes as Christians should be like that of the poor widow who gave all she had and believed that God shall provide, as recorded in **Mk.12:41- 44**.

*Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put money into the treasury. And many who were rich put in much. 42 Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrant. 43 So He called His disciples to Himself and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; 44 for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood." NKJV*

## **THE PERFUMED GIVERS**

Our attitude as Christians, should emulate the Philippians' Brethren, whose gifts were an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God. **Phil. 4:18**.

## **THE CONSECRATED GIVERS**

The Christian attitude should be liken to that of the Macedonian Brethren, who first gave themselves to the Lord. **2 Cor. 8:1 - 5**.

*Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia: 2 that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality.*

*3 For I bear witness that according to their ability, yes, and beyond their ability, they were freely willing, 4 imploring us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. 5 And not only as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of God NKJV*

## **WHAT ABOUT HELPING YOUR BRETHREN WHO ARE IN NEED?**

Apostle Paul by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit declares in - **Acts 20:34-35**

*I have shown you in every way, by labouring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" NKJV*

**CONCLUSION**

Brethren, it is now or never that we have a change of our negative attitudes toward giving. Every Lord's day we pray and beg GOD for not giving rightly, we have been blessed by the Lord, but every passing Lord's day, we rub Him. The Lord has declared in **Rom. 6:1-2** *What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? NKJV*

**Heb. 10:26**, Declares,

*26 For if we sin wilfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins NKJV*

Brethren, Remember, if we must enjoy the benefits of our giving, then, we must sow bountifully in other to reap bountifully. For this is the will of GOD. FOR GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER.

**MAY GOD BLESS HIS WORD IN JESUS NAME - AMEN**