

Intro: People, by and large, do not understand giving. And I'm talking about CHRISTIANS!

1. "Oh No! He's gonna preach on tithing again."

NO! Tithing is only one form of giving. This is NOT just about tithing but about GIVING!

2. Giving is going down drastically. To Churches, to charities- all are having a drastic drop.

Why! Because people only understand the fact of giving but do not understand the mechanism of giving.

I. The Fact or, If You Will, the Act of Giving.

Several different kinds of giving.

A. Giving the tithe- but really it is giving back the tithe.

1. (Lev ch. 27) The tithe is "Holy unto the Lord." **It's Holy- it belongs to God.**

2. OT and NT (**Mal 3:8-11**) (**Mt 23:23**)

3. To take care of the House of God and the priests.

Num 18:12 "... the best..." went to the priests because they were given no inheritance of the land on which to make their living. They were to live off of what the other tribes gave.

B. Giving of offerings.

1. Mission offerings- home & foreign.. (**I Cor 16:1-3**)

2. Offerings to help other Christians & Churches in need.

(**II Cor 8:1-14**) **READ II Cor 8:13-14**

3. Helping the poor in your own Church.

i. **READ Acts 4:31-35**

ii. What about con men?

(**Acts 5:1-10**) Ananias & Sapphira

C. Giving of Alms. READ Mt 6:1-4

D. But these all concern the fact or, if you will, the act of giving.

II. The Mechanism of Giving. HOW DOES IT WORK?

A. How much? That's up to you- your giving provokes a response from God!

That's how God set it up! What He does depends on what you do.

In essence, God does not decide how He will bless you in this matter- YOU DO!

READ from sheet: II Cor 9:7-8; Phil 4:19

B. When you let go of what's in your hand- **God lets go of what's in HIS HAND!**

And what is in God's hand?

1. Everything you have on earth- **II Cor 9:9-10**

2. Everything in Heaven- **Mal 3:10-11**

C. QUESTION- How can you not lose it if you give your money away?

1. God's law of sowing and reaping. **Plant a little in the ground and much comes up!**

Plant more in the ground and much more comes up!

2. What you sow is exactly what you reap! **Gal 6:7**

And God promises the devourer will not get the rest. **Mal 3:11** "... rebuke the devourer..."

3. Giving is planting seed for future harvest.

- WHEN THE MONEY LEAVES MY HAND IT DOES NOT LEAVE MY LIFE!
IT GOES INTO MY FUTURE WHERE IT MULTIPLIES!

- WHEN IT LEAVES MY HAND - IT GOES INTO GOD'S HAND!

And it is safer in god's hand than it is in mine!

I could lose it - GOD CANNOT!

FOUR (4) BIBLICAL RULES OF THE MECHANISM OF GIVING

ONE: YOUR GIVING PROVOKES A RESPONSE FROM GOD - NOTHING LEAVES HEAVEN UNTIL SOMETHING LEAVES EARTH!

When you let go of what's in your hand- God lets go of what's in His hand.

**TWO: THE MORE YOU SOW, THE MORE YOU REAP,
AND YOU REAP EXACTLY WHAT YOU SOW**

**THREE: WHEN WHATEVER YOU GIVE LEAVES YOUR HAND,
IT DOES NOT LEAVE YOUR LIFE- IT GOES INTO YOUR FUTURE WHERE
IT MULTIPLIES!**

**FOUR: WHEN IT LEAVES YOUR HAND, IT GOES INTO GOD'S HAND
And it is much safer in God's hand than it is in your hand.**

**SOME WILL SAY, "THAT'S JUST A PROSPERITY GOSPEL- YOU KNOW,
IF YOU'RE SAVED GOD WILL BLESS YOU?"**

**NO! IT IS BIBLE TEACHINGS ON THE MECHANISM OF GIVING!
ALL FOUR OF THESE PRINCIPLES ARE BIBLE PRINCIPLES!**

Now the question is: HOW MUCH DO YOU TRUST GOD!

For the lost:

SOW FAITH IN CHRIST AND REAP ETERNAL SALVATION!

And for the saved:

**HOW MUCH DO YOU TRUST GOD!
- SOWING AND REAPING -**

**DO WE TRUST GOD TO MULTIPLY WHAT WE SOW?
(Money - food - clothes - and anything else you can think of.)**

DO WE BELIEVE GOD ENOUGH TO ACT UPON WHAT HE SAYS?

The next time there is a need, will we step up and give to that need?

That's where God will separate the talkers from the doers.

Tithing - missions - faith promise - special offerings - food - clothes - ANYTHING!

HOW MUCH DO YOU TRUST GOD?

**IF THIS NATION TRUSTED GOD- THERE WOULDN'T BE A DROP IN GIVING
BECAUSE OF THE FINANCIAL CRISIS - THERE WOULD BE AN INCREASE!**

II Cor 9:8

**And God is able to make all grace abound toward you;
that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things,
may abound to every good work:**

HOW MUCH DO YOU TRUST GOD!

II. A.

II Cor 9:7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, *so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.*

:8 And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:

Phil 4:19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

II. B.

Everything you have on earth- **II Cor 9:9** (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever.

:10 Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for *your* food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;)

Everything in Heaven- **Mal 3:10** Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that *there shall not be room enough to receive it.*

Mal 3:11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.

II. C. 2.

Gal 6:7 "... whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."