



A Proper Perspective On Giving —Part Two
The Way You Handle Money Is Important to God

Proverbs 3:9-10

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Objective Sentence: Everyone should tithe and give to the Lord because the principles associated with giving prepare the way for supernatural living.

Source Unknown: Some people say that Jesus does not care about your money, but the Bible contains more about money than it does about heaven, hell, faith and love combined! One in ten scriptures as well sixteen of thirty-eight parables deal with how to handle your possessions. There are over 600 verses in the Bible that relate to money matters, 100 verses in Proverbs alone deal with the issue of money. The Bible mentions money or things that can be turned into money 2,085 times. What a person does at offering time reveals as much and possibly more of the nature of a person than what he or she does during praise and worship time or even early morning prayer times. Jesus observed how people gave 2000 years ago and he is still observing the way we give today.

- #1.** *You must control your money and not let your money control you* (Matthew NKJV 6:21-22, 24 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. ²⁴ “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.)
- A.** *Pastor Wayne Friedt:* Life is broken down into increments of time. One sells those increments of time for money. Forty hours of time is forty hours of life. Jesus cares about life; therefore, Jesus cares about money. Your offering represents your faith or your unbelief, your obedience or your

*rebellion, your liberty or your captivity, your advancement into your promised destiny or your retreat into the captivity of your past. People give according to their faith. Our heart follows our money because Jesus said in **Matthew 6:21-24**, “Where your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.*

1. **Trust** (***Proverbs 3:5-9** Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. ⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and depart from evil. ⁸ It will be health to your flesh, and strength to your bones. ⁹ Honor the LORD with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase.*)
 - a. *Source Unknown:* God equates ones use of wealth with ones commitment to Him.
 - b. *Source Unknown:* There are bigger things in life than money--bills.
 - c. **Psalm 37:21** The wicked borrow and never repay, but the godly are generous givers.
 - d. *Source Unknown* If a man's or woman's faith in God does not affect his or her use of money, that person's religion is vain.
 - e. *Pastor Dan:* It is not how much you make but how much you give that justifies or condemns the use of the money that God puts into your hands. **1 Timothy 6:17-19** Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. ¹⁸ *Let them* do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, ¹⁹ storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

2. **Increase** (***Joshua 1:8** This book of the law shall depart out of your mouth ... then you shall make your way prosperous and then you will have good success.*)
 - a. **Deuteronomy 8:18** And you shall remember the LORD your God, for *it is* He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as *it is* this day
 - b. **Psalm 1:2-6** And his delight is in the law of the Lord and in His law does he meditate day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that brings forth its fruit ...
 - c. **Proverbs 10:22** *The blessing of the Lord makes one rich, and He adds no sorrow with it).*
 - d. **Proverbs 21:20** There is precious treasure and oil in the house of the wise [who prepare for the future], but a short-sighted *and* foolish man swallows it up *and* wastes it [squanders it]
 - e. **Proverbs 22:4** Humility and fear of the Lord bring wealth and honor and life.
 - f. **Proverbs 27:23 NLT** Know the state of your flocks, and put your heart into caring for your herds.
 - g. **Philippians 4:19** My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory ...
 - h. **3 John 2** Beloved I wish above all things that you prosper and be in health even as your soul prospers.

- #2. **Owe Nothing To Anyone** (***Romans 13:8 NLT** Owe nothing to anyone—except for your obligation to love one another. If you love your neighbor, you will fulfill the requirements of God's law)*

- A. **Ben Franklin:** *There are two ways of solving money problems: augmenting your means - that is, making more money - or diminishing your wants; either will do. But the best plan of all is to do both at the same time: earn more money and diminish your wants. In this way, you'll live well within your means and always have a surplus of money.*

1. **Servant**
 - a. **Proverbs 22:7** The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower *is* servant to the lender.

- b. **James 4:2-3** You do not have because you do not ask. ³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend *it* on your pleasures. *A Thought:* If you can't afford it but buy it anyway you are consuming upon your lusts
- c. **1 John 2:16-17** For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever
- d. **1 Thessalonians 3:10** we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.

#3. *Be a Giver* (*Proverbs 11:24-2 NKJV* *There is one who scatters, yet increases more; and there is one who withholds more than is right, but it leads to poverty. The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself* [reaping the generosity he has sown])

A. *Luke 21:1-3 NLT* *While Jesus was in the Temple, he watched the rich people dropping their gifts in the collection box. ² Then a poor widow came by and dropped in two small coins. ³ "I tell you the truth," Jesus said, "this poor widow has given more than all the rest of them."*

1. **Balance** (*Source Unknown:* *You cannot take your money to heaven, but you can invest it for eternity. We are rich only through what we give, and poor only through what we keep. The way to avoid the love of money is to balance the ability to make money with the ability to give.*)
 - a. **2 Corinthians 9:6-10** 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. ⁹ As it is written: he has dispersed abroad, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever
 - b. **Luke 6:38** Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.
 - c. *General Colin Powell:* Young people need to learn the paradox of giving - that when we help others, we get back far more than we contribute. Teens who tutor elementary school kids, or spend a few hours a month at a hospice, or give up a Saturday to clean up an empty lot, get to know the satisfaction that comes from making a difference in someone else's life.
 - d. **Psalms 34:9-10** Fear the LORD, you his godly people, for those who fear him will have all they need. ¹⁰ Even strong young lions sometimes go hungry, but those who trust in the LORD will lack no good thing.
 - e. *Source Unknown:* Contentment occurs our when earning power equals our yearning power.
 - f. **1 Timothy 5:8** if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.
2. **Reward** (*Richard Carlson, Ph.D.;* There is an ancient saying: "Giving is its own reward." It's really true. When you give, you also receive. In fact, what you receive is directly proportional to what you give. As you give more freely of yourself in your own unique ways, you will experience more feelings of peace than you ever thought possible. Everyone wins, especially you.)
 - a. *Author Unknown:* Give strength, give thought, give deeds, give wealth; Give love, give tears, and give yourself, Give, give, be always giving, Who gives not is not living, the more you give, the more you live.
 - b. *Winston Churchill:* We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.

- c. *John D. Rockefeller, Jr.:* Giving is the secret of a healthy life. Not necessarily money, but whatever a man has of encouragement and sympathy and understanding.
- d. *Robert South:* If there be any truer measure of a man than by what he does, it must be by what he gives.
- e. *Pastor Dan:* We manage the materialistic side of our lives by giving tithes and offerings to the Lord. Our giving makes a direct spiritual impact on our spiritual living. Right giving is a key element in right living.

Bruce Watson: Four years ago, I was sitting in my cab in front of a Philadelphia hotel, thinking and praying. This particular Sunday, business had been extremely slow. I was wondering where I was going to get \$60 to pay for the daily rent of my cab. I could lose the cab - and my livelihood - if I didn't come up with the money immediately. Just then, a young woman got into my cab and said, "I know it will cost \$25 for this ride, but I can only afford to pay you \$15. I work for a charity, and that's all they gave me for cab fare." I thought about it for a minute. I am probably going to lose my cab anyway. Why not help someone else have a good day? I agreed to do it. At her destination, the woman paid her \$15 fare, then reached into her purse and laid a \$100 bill next to me on the seat! "The \$15 fare was the charity's money," she explained. "This is my own money. God told me you needed it." With that, she was gone. Through tears of joy, I thanked God for supplying my daily needs.

Prayer of Petition:

Dear Lord, work in my life and give me the desire, and the power to do what pleases you.
 Forgive me of the sin of neglect, ignorance, selfishness and rebellion
 May I honor you in my prayer life
 May I honor you in the study of Your Word
 May I honor you in my service to You
 May I honor you in the way I live before others
 May I honor you in purity
 May I honor you with my mouth
 May I honor you with my money .

Thank you Lord for hearing me and answering my prayer.