

## "Giving Is Worshipping"

1 Corinthians 16:1-4

Sunday July 23, 2023

There are at least **2,350 passages** in the Bible concerning money and material possessions. That's more than any other subject.

**38 Parables of Jesus: 12 parables involving God given resources and material goods.**

In the four gospels, one out of every eight verses speak of money.

The Epistle to the **Philippians** is a thank you note for giving an offering.

**2 Corinthians** has two chapters dedicated to giving. **2 Corinthians 8-9**

**1 Corinthians 16:1-4** Is Rich In "**Christian Stewardship**" **Stewardship** – *"is one that manages, or has oversight over the affairs of another, he does not own that which he has been entrusted with but manages it as if it is his own"*  
(Believers)

**The Corinthian Church wrote to the Apostle Paul and asked questions.**

The last question addressed was about "Giving to God" **1 Corinthians 16:1 Now concerning the collection for the saints,**

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "Giving God's Way Is an Act Of Worship, Whereby Believers Give Freely And Proportionately Based Upon God's Blessings."

### **Seven Principles of Giving Is Worshipping:**

**1 Corinthians 16:1 Now** Signals a transition in thought to which Paul has been speaking. He has spent the entire previous chapter on the resurrection.

**1 Corinthians 15**

Paul in these 15 chapters has taught moral and doctrinal issues to the believers. This last chapter has to do with personal concerns for them.

**1 Corinthians 15:58 always abounding in the work of the Lord.**

After Paul had taught on the **Resurrection**, he transitions into teaching on **Giving** to the Lord. (Our Giving is Spiritual)

**concerning the collection**, the word **collection** – means *"to say something."*

**for the saints**, this was an offering for the suffering saints of Jerusalem.

**Acts 11:29-30**

**collection for the saints** It had a purpose, they were not just collecting money to collect money.

## **The Resurrection Gives Life, So We Should Invest In The Eternal**

**2 Corinthians 8-9; 1 Corinthians 16:1-4** are passages concerning the giving of this offering to the saints at Jerusalem.

**1. Giving Is By The Believers To The Church: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so do you also.**

**Christians Are Givers Because God Has Changed Their Hearts!  
Acts 20:35 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'**

**1 Corinthians 12:26**

**1 Corinthians 16:2 On the first day of every week**

**2. Giving Is An Act Of Worship: On the first day of every week** This is the basis for Christians Worshipping on Sunday. Jesus rose from the dead on the first day of the week Sunday.

**Acts 20:7 And on the first day of the week, when we were gathered together**

**Our Giving Is An Act Of Worship.**

**Giving was not to be hit and miss but it was to be consistent to the Lord.** God is a giver and so are His children.

**2 Corinthians 9:7 Cheerful** is the word we get "*hilarious*" from.

**cheerful giver** God loves a hilarious giver.

**(We miss out! On the blessings)**

**3. Giving Is A Christian Quality: **each one of you**** Notice that giving was to be by each believer! Rich and Poor.

**Every Christian Should Give:** No matter how poor you may be!

**2 Corinthian 9:7 Let each one do just as he has purposed in his heart:**

**2 Corinthian 8:1-2**

**Mark 12:41** Widow who gave to small coins. She gave out of her poverty!

God has entrusted me with resources that I need to use for His glory!

**4. Giving Should Be Determined Before Hand: put aside and save, (KJV lay by him in store)** literally *"let everyone of you treasure up a precious thing."*

At the time of Paul, people were paid each day so they would have to lay aside the money and prepare for the Sunday service.

**John 12** Mary took some ointment that was worth a year's wages, and she poured it on Jesus.

**Luke 16:11** not been faithful in the use of unrighteous wealth, who will entrust the true riches to you? This is an argument from the lesser to the greater!

**"When God has our heart, He also has our wallet."**

**2 Corinthians 9:7** Let each one do just as he has purposed in his heart;

**5. Giving Should Be Proportionate: as he may prosper, the word prosper – "good journey"** The giving was in proportion to God's financial blessings upon our lives. **(How has God blessed us on life's journey?)**

**2 Corinthians 9:6** he who sows bountifully shall also reap bountifully.

**Luke 6:38**

**How much should we give? Is there a certain amount that we should give? 10% of the Gross or the Net?**

I believe that the NT teaches **"Grace Giving"** OT (Israel) was to **Tithe – 10%** along with other offerings. As much as 30% - 35% was given to God. **God is concerned about! Actions and Attitudes! The Heart!**

**2 Corinthians 8:12** it is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have.

**We will never have enough, 1 Timothy 6:17**

**6. Giving Should Not Be Through Pressure: so that no collections be made when I come.** Offering was to be ready to be delivered on arrival.

**Don't give just because Paul was there**

**Matthew 6:3-4**

**1 Corinthians 16:3**

7. Giving Should Be To A Ministry Of Integrity: **When I arrive, whomever you may approve,** the offering carried by proven faithful men.

**whomever you may approve,** the world has checks and balances when it comes to finances, should not the church even be above this?

**I shall send them with letters** These letters were some types of correspondence that these faithful men would travel and deliver.

**to carry your gift to Jerusalem;** Notice that Paul was not going to be carrying the gift, but it was going to be by the other faithful men.

**1 Corinthians 16:4 and if it is fitting for me to go also, they will go with me.**

**Application:**

1. Giving Is Not A One Time Gift, Nor An Occasional Gift, But A Lifestyle.
2. When Giving Is Presented Biblically No Christian Should Ever Take Offense.
3. Tithing Is An Old Testament Teaching For Israel. The Christian Is Under Grace. Because Of Grace, The Believer Is Liberated And Gives Beyond OT Giving.
4. Am I Giving Back To God What Is Rightfully His? **Matthew 22:21**