

"Your Giving"
Matthew 6:1-4
Sunday October 10, 2021

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"*

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

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**

Matthew 6:1-18 The Christian's Devotion Before God

1. Christian and Giving Verses 1-4
2. Christian and Prayer Verses 5-15
3. Christian and Fasting Verses 16-18

Jesus is coming against the hypocrisy of the religious leaders' devotion to God.

Hypocrisy is referred to 3 times:

1. Hypocrisy in Giving Verse 2
2. Hypocrisy in Praying Verse 5
3. Hypocrisy in Fasting Verse 16

Thought Of Our Passage: "When Our Giving Is Not God Centered But Man Centered It Will Result In No Reward From God"

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| 1. Verse 1 | Warning To Givers |
| 2. Verse 2 | Motive For Giving |
| 3. Verses 3-4 | Approach To Giving |

1. Verse 1 Warning To Givers:

Matthew 6:1 "Beware – *"to bring to, bring near, to turn the mind to, to be attentive"*

disciple - is *"a follower of the teacher and His teaching."*

of practicing your righteousness - speaks of outward righteous deeds –

Matthew 6:1 The Key Verse of this section: Jesus is speaking about our devotion - our righteousness that is unto the Lord, which includes:

Our Giving Praying ... Fasting. **1 John 2:29**

to be noticed by them; *"seen by, to gaze at, to look at"* Literally *"show"*

There Appears To Be An Apparent Contradiction To What Jesus Previously Said: Matthew 5:15-16

before men to be noticed by them; is speaking of our righteousness to be a show before others - vanity, pride - self righteousness. (Not God but self, Me!)

otherwise you have no reward The Bible teaches rewards to the faithful child of God. **Matthew 6:4 your Father who sees *what is done in secret will reward you.***

2 Corinthians 5:10; Colossians 3:23-24

with your Father who is in heaven.

"Your Father" is repeated **nine times: Verses 1,4, 6, 8, 14, 15, 18**

The Source of Charity Is A New Birth: That it is out of a relationship with Jesus that we live this new life and charity.

That when we give to God it does several things:

- 1. Giving To God Breaks Human Self-Centeredness**
- 2. Through Giving We Become Extensions/Channels Of God**

God Taught Israel To Be Charitable And Compassionate Towards The Poor. Psalm 41:1; Proverbs 19:17; Proverbs 29:7

"Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to be noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father who is in heaven.

2. Verse 2 Motive For Giving:

Matthew 6:2 "So when you give to the poor, Jesus is speaking to the disciples of Christ. Note that He does not say, **"So if you give to the poor"** But **"So when you give to the poor!"** The child of God is going to give.

give to the poor, alms – means *"a deed of mercy or pity"* The Bible does not separate righteousness from generosity.

Deuteronomy 15:11

Giving Starts With Being Given To God: This is where we begin, our relationship to God.

1 and 2 Corinthians speak about the giving of the believers of **Philippi. Philippians 4:16-17**

During Paul's second missionary journey he let them know about the suffering believers in Jerusalem. **Galatians 2:10**

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

Giving Is An Act Of Worship!

Don't Blow Your Own Horn About Your Giving: do not sound a trumpet before you, Metaphorical? Jesus could be speaking of the Jewish temple trumpets that would sound to announce a time to worship including giving.

as the hypocrites – *"actors, one who plays a part"* Literally *"to speak from underneath"*

do in the synagogues and in the streets, we don't know if the trumpet was really blown in the synagogues or the streets.

so that they may be honored by men. When our focus is to be that of people, we will receive all that man has to offer.

D.A. Carson said, *"The way to avoid hypocrisy is not to cease giving but to do so with such secrecy that we scarcely know what we have given."*

God Is Concerned About Attitudes (The Heart) and Actions:
Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. Reward in full - technical term meaning *"payment in full, to give a receipt,"* completely paid for.

We Must Be Spiritual In Our Giving: Galatians 6:7-8

Galatians 6:6 The one who is taught the word is to share

Galatians 6:7-10

3. Verses 3-4 Approach To Giving:

Matthew 6:3 **"But when you give to the poor,** we as followers of God are not to be like them, (Hypocrites)

Don't Be Self-Conscious About Your Giving: do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing - don't be self-conscious about your giving

Beware less an act of mercy becomes an act of vanity! That the motive be not the benefit of the person receiving but our benefit who gave it.

Matthew 6:4 so that your giving will be in secret; secret because it is done only for Him to see

and your Father who sees *what is done in secret* will reward you. What a promise this is to us. God sees our hearts, our motives and will repay us.

Our Giving Is To Be Sacrificial: 2 Corinthians 8:9

NT teaches "**Grace Giving**" The OT (Israel) **Tithe** – 10% along with other offerings they gave as much as 30% - 39% **1 Corinthians 16:2**

Should we at least start with 10%? We need to commit to God! God needs to be first! One time does God challenge man to test Him, in giving - **Malachi 3:10; Luke 6:38**

Application:

- 1.** Giving Is Not A One Time Gift Nor An Occasional Gift, But A Lifestyle. When God Has Our Heart He Also Has Our Wallet.
- 2.** When Instruction On Giving Is Presented Biblically No Christian Should Ever Be Resentful; Being Resentful Reveals A Heart Issue.
- 3.** Am I Giving To God What Is Rightfully His? **Matthew 22:21 "Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and to God the things that are God's."**
- 4.** Tithing Is An Old Testament Teaching For Israel. The Christian Is Under Grace; Because Of Grace The Believer Is Liberated And Can Give Beyond The OT Giver.