

**ACCM**

**Bible Study:** Tuesday, September 10th, 2019. **Topic: KINGDOM GIVING Part 3**

**TEXT:** Luke 21:1-2.

INTRODUCTION: Some modern day preachers paint the picture of God as a being who is so obsessed with asking His people to give Him all their money. That is a misrepresentation of God. I do not want us to confuse this teaching on Kingdom giving with the teaching on prosperity. I am not talking about prosperity but kingdom giving. As I dig deeper into kingdom giving, I find out that giving in the bible appears to be segmented into various areas such as administrative, development, benevolence and celebratory. However, every act of giving, if properly done has a reward from God.

Two weeks ago we learnt that giving to the poor is equivalent to lending to the Lord. We also learnt that giving opens doors for us on earth and creates storage in heaven for those who have accounts in heaven.

We will continue from where we stopped two weeks ago on this topic. May God grant us understanding?

Another part of giving which is expected to be demonstrated by Christians is a show of kindness without an expectation of a reciprocal reward from God or man. It should become a part of us who are called to the kingdom. Ruth 2:15, Luke 10:34, 12:33, Deut 15:12-14, Matt 5:42, Acts 20:35.

Giving will not grant you access to heaven it has its place in kingdom work. Giving and human respect may grant you access before men. **Acts 10: 1-5, 25-26**. The message of Peter will tell us what grants us access to God’s kingdom. **Eph 2:8, Rom 5:1-2, Titus 3:5** (good (righteous) works (benevolence and charity) will not guarantee anyone heaven)

Without salvation by Jesus you will not have access to heaven. A few things which giving and good works could do for you are 1. Create opportunity for you to make heaven and 2, God will provide for you, protect you and defend you on earth. **Psalm 41: 1-3. Acts 9: 36** (Dorcas)

God is pleased when we give: **Heb 13:16**

God does not need sin money to build His kingdom. Have you ever wondered why God did not ask the people in Noah’s time to contribute to the building of Noah’s Ark.?

Giving for the work of the Kingdom. (Administrative)

This includes maintenance of resources that are related to the business of the kingdom.

Giving in the bible often was necessitated by the needs of the moment

1. **Giving for Tabernacle building** Exodus 25: 1-9, 35:4-35. This type of giving was requested by God more than once because the building was been built.
2. **Giving for the maintenance of the tabernacle.** This was regular unlike the tabernacle offering which stopped at some point when the tabernacle was already built in Exodus 40. This is a half shekel offering which was used to maintain the tabernacle. It eventually became the temple tax. To take care of the temple, the Lord Himself instituted the temple tax: Exodus 30:11-16. Notice how cheap it was. Jesus himself paid this tax. Matt 17:24-25. You will notice that in Leviticus, the type of offering changed.

**WHY DO WE GIVE Continued.**

**TEXT:**

1. **Offering at the dedication of the tabernacle (Volunteer Offering**). Num 7:1-10 Notice that they were not told what to give. This was a willing offering and God told Moses to accept it and then told him how to distribute it. One reason why giving has become a challenge for many people is because they are not really concerned about kingdom work.
2. **Giving to repair the Temple:** II Chron 24:4-10. This is what happens when there is disobedience and the people neglect giving to God
3. **Giving to rebuild the temple and to encourage the servants of God:** Ezra 1:5-6.
4. **Giving out of love:** The widow did not have to give but she gave. So why did she give Matthew 26: 7-13. Luke 10:25-37
5. **Giving for the priest**: The office of the priest might not exactly mirror that of the church pastor or administrator as it is today. That is where the dynamism of the Holy Spirit comes in. However, using basic bible principles, we should be able to care for today’s ministers. I Tim 5:17-18. Abandoning the ministers might lead to a repeat of what happened to the priests in Nehemiah 13:10. Where the priest returned to their farms at the detriment of their temple works.
6. **Compulsory Giving**: The bible has examples of compulsory giving but you will find them to be very humane: Matt 17:24-27 Exodus 30:11-15, Neh 10:32
7. **Giving to help the needy**. We must practice discretionary giving in the church. Not giving because some leaders have asked us to do so or because there is an administrative need. Prov 21:13, Lev 25:35, Deut 15:7, Job 29:11-17

You do not wait until you have sufficient before you can give because giving should be sacrificial. II Cor 8:2-7,

Every gift must come from the heart of the giver before it can meet God’s standards. It must not have any inducement whatsoever such as taxes, raffle draws etc. It must not be under any threat, emotional or psychological duress

Giving should be proportionate to your possession (According to that which a man has and not according to what he does not have), If you however practice disproportionate giving, it should be by your conviction.

ACCOUNTABILITY IN GOD’S VINE YARD

II Cor 8:19-24, I Cor 16:3-4.