

GIVING

Matthew Chapter 6 : 1 - 4

Giving to the Needy

“Be careful not to do your ‘acts of righteousness’ before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

“So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

IN MORE THAN ONE WAY

- THERE IS ALWAYS A NEED
- AT HOME, AT WORK, ALL OVER THE WORLD
- THERE IS A NEED EVEN FOR YOU EACH PASSING DAY

Because of the need, there is a time to give.

Give At Home

Give to Family

Give to the Needy

Give in Fasting

Give in Encouragement

Give of Self

Give At Work

Give to Friends

Give in Prayer

Give in Materials

Give in Worship

Give your Time

Most of us **think** when we *give*, it is only natural we deserve something back.

However, God says, “Be careful not to do your acts of righteousness”.

Clearly God has other reasons why He does not want any ‘recognitions’ nor ‘publicity’ when He asks His Children to give to the needy

We see that once the giving starts we also know how the carnal man **yearns** recognition because it will earn him/her the praises from mankind.

So then the praise is all they’d seek once it becomes a habit, and God is not into habits. He is looking at the *Attitude* when you give. With the right Attitude we can reach for a higher vision **WITH** God and **FOR** God

God doesn’t go by how many times you give of yourself in prayer or fast, (although He does say you will receive your reward) He watches your *attitude* and *manner* of how you approach His children, those who were really in need and you gave to them.

We know the only thing that matters is when **we give as the Holy Spirit directs us.**

Giving should not be governed by these things :

- Because we like the person .
- Because that person is your sister, or family member

- Because they are your friends and they always agree with everything you say.

No, here is what we are to do.

“But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret.”

The meaning is to rebuke your carnal mind, and to listen to the Still Small Voice of the Holy Spirit. That is when you are sowing spiritually and benefiting your brothers and sisters in Christ.

NOTE : If you sow carnally you will reap carnality. The natural mind does not want to agree with spiritual matters. Therefore even though that person may have everything in the world, and yet the Holy Spirit prompts you to give, do it immediately . It is not about what *appears* in the flesh and blood but it is what is taking place in the spiritual realm

THE MANNER OF HOW YOU GIVE

If your giving is forced, then the manner of how you gave will hinder you to reach your next level with God

Brothers and sisters, we are where we are today because one or many others had to give or sacrifice their time, materials, their families, money, just for you so that you can reach the next level in God.

BE THANKFUL SOMEONE HAD THE RIGHT MANNER WHEN GIVING IN YOUR MATTER.

What good is it if you keep giving to those who return it?

Are you able to GIVE to the ones who hurt you most?

OR GIVE to those who never really seem to know the word ‘thank you’?

Remember whatever you give is not yours to give, it all belongs to your LORD and Master, and HE is the Giver.

Righteousness as defined in Deut 6:25 *“And if we are careful to obey all this law before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us, that will be our righteousness.”*

A SUMMARY FOR YOU ...

YOU	GOD
When giving we set limitations	God doesn't
When giving we seek to be rewarded	Jesus didn't
When giving we feel the receiver owes us	God says they owe us nothing, our service is for God
When giving we sound it with trumpets	God said give and let not your right hand know what your left hand is doing
When people owe us either money or materials, and we are still required to give, we think they don't deserve anymore because they have so much from you	God does not think that way. He sees the need, and expects His children to act upon His voice. He gave His Son in abundance even when they flogged Him

There has to be a constant molding in your character. In other words, you must allow the Holy Spirit to mold you in your attitude when it comes to giving

- In giving, we give in prayer.
- When we give in prayer , we fast from the things that our carnal nature wants to do
- When we fast , we store up treasures in heaven, unreachable to the carnal nature or the kingdom of this world
- Therefore when our spiritual treasures are secure, we stop worrying about the world and its system, but we rest and let God be God

**** If one does not give oneself FULLY to God, then whatever comes out of their prayers and fasting will it not be another act of righteousness?*

OUR LIFE EACH DAY IS LIKE A TANGIBLE VEIL WE HAVE TO PENETRATE. WE WAKE UP TO THE SOUNDS AND CRIES OF THE WORLD, YET, WE HAVE TO BELIEVE WE DO NOT BELONG TO IT BUT HELP THOSE WHO THINK THEY DO

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