

# Giving what God has given

TOUGH STUFF - 2 Corinthians 8&9, 1 Corinthians 16

*Introduction:*

## **#1 Why do we STRUGGLE with giving?**

TURN TO Malachi 1:6-8

TURN TO Malachi 3:8-10

### **1<sup>st</sup> - A wrong WORLDVIEW**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> - A WEAK view of God**

TURN TO Revelation 4:11 and 5:12

1 Corinthians 6:19 ...*you are not your own* or

1 Corinthians 4:7 *what do you have that you did not receive?*

Psalms 50:12 *the World is God's and all it contains;*

Psalms 50:10 *He owns the cattle on a thousand hills.*

### **3<sup>rd</sup> - Unwilling to SURRENDER our lives to Christ**

Romans 12:1 *I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.*

Matthew 6:21 *for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*

## **#2 Why do we GIVE to God?**

### **1<sup>st</sup> - Our giving comes from a heart changed by salvation by GRACE**

TURN TO 2 Corinthians 8:1-5

Romans 8:31 & 32, *if God is for us who is against us, He who did not spare His own Son... will He not also with Him, freely give us all things?*

Galatians 1:3-4 *The Lord Jesus Christ who gave Himself for our sins*

### **2<sup>nd</sup> - Our giving demonstrates our COMMITMENT**

2 Corinthians 9:6 *Now this I say, he who sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly; and he who sows bountifully shall also reap bountifully. 7 Let each one do just as he has purposed in his heart; not grudgingly or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver.*

Luke 6:38 *"Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, they will pour into your lap. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return."*

### **3<sup>rd</sup> - Our giving brings us REWARD**

Matthew 6:4 *That your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.*

### **4<sup>th</sup> - Our giving supports those who PREACH the Gospel**

1 Corinthians 9:14 *So also the Lord directed those who proclaim the gospel to get their living from the gospel.*

### **5<sup>th</sup> - Our giving GLORIFIES God**

2 Corinthians 9:12 *This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people, but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. 13 because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will glorify God... for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.*

## #3 HOW do we give money to God? TURN TO 1 Corinthians 16:1-4

### Level 1 - REGULAR Giving

2 On the first day of every week, let each one of you put aside and save, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come.

1st - The PERIOD = *every week*

2nd - The PARTICIPANTS = *each one of you*

3rd - The PLACE = *The Church*

Acts 4:35+37

Luke 16:10-11 He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much. If therefore you have not been faithful in the use of unrighteous mammon, money who will entrust the true riches to you?"

4th - The PROPORTION = *as you may prosper*

1-SACRIFICIAL 2 Corinthians 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

2-JOYFUL 2 Corinthians 9:7 Let each one do just as he has purposed in his heart; not grudgingly or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver.

### Level 2 - Free Will, SPECIAL giving

Exodus 25:1-2 Tell the Israelites to bring me an offering. You are to receive the offering for me from each man whose heart prompts him to give.

### Level 3 - ABANDONED Giving

2 Corinthians 8:2 gave from their deep poverty 3 beyond their ability they gave of their own accord,

### *Three questions:*

#1 - What does your giving indicate about your HEART?

Luke 12:34 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also

#2 - Is your giving a SACRIFICIAL Joy?

#3 - Is your giving done with the CROSS in mind?