

# God Is Generous

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He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? (Romans 8:32)

- I. One of the most obvious attributes of God is his generosity.
  - A. Even those who do not believe in God must acknowledge that IF He exists and He DID create this universe, then He must be generous.
  - B. Consider all the animals and life that exists on earth and the vast supply of food required just to meet their needs.

The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing. (Psalms 145:15-16)

- C. It is not just chance and happenstance that there is always enough.
    - 1. It is from the very hand of a very generous God.
  - D. Consider the fact that all living things are propagated by means of a seed and then consider the number of seeds that are produced.
    - 1. They are vastly innumerable, far beyond what would be considered even abundance.
  - E. Consider the number of stars in the heavens, or the grains of sand on the seashore.
  - F. Consider the leaves on the trees, the fish in the sea, the birds in the air.
  - G. Count them if you can.
  - H. Consider the amount of air and water on the earth.
    - 1. We count water by gallons but that will not work to measure the seas.
  - I. Consider the vastness of the universe.
    - 1. We measure distance and space by inches, feet, and miles, but those are insufficient to measure the universe.
  - J. These simple obvious facts prove to us that God is not miserly, but infinitely generous.
  - K. These things are evidence that when God does something He does not do it sparingly but beyond even superabundance.
- II. The most generous thing God ever did was send his own Son to give himself for our sins and to redeem us from our iniquity.
    - A. This is a far greater thing than all the rest of it put together.
    - B. God gives out of an endless supply, so He never runs low on resources.
    - C. He never has to cut back on his giving to keep from running out of stuff to give.
    - D. But this was one thing that was not endless, and not something that came from an endless supply - it was his ONLY begotten Son.

As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. (John 10:15)

- E. It is one thing to give things, even though they may be very valuable and necessary for life, but it is quite another thing to give the life of one you love.
- F. The Father and the Son are one, and so we can also understand that God gave HIMSELF for our sins.

G. There are people who are very generous, but there are few that are willing to go that far.

III. If God is so generous then those who are born of God should also be generous.

A. How could they be otherwise if they are partakers of the Divine nature?

But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? (1 John 3:17)

B. A lack of generosity is evidence of a lack of God and is simply selfishness.

C. However, there is a form of generosity that is also nothing more than selfishness.

1. Sometimes people give in order to get. (Attention, love, position, recognition, etc.)
2. This is nothing more than buying and selling and it not true generosity at all.

And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again. (Luke 6:34)

D. True benevolence is to give without expecting something in return.

E. True benevolence finds all its satisfaction in simply giving, it doesn't require returns.

I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive. (Acts 20:35)

Then said he also to him that bade him, When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbours; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompence be made thee. But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just. (Luke 14:12-14)

But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. (Luke 6:35)

F. There are many examples of people in the Bible who gave all they had, when they had little to give.

And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. (Mark 12:42)

And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head. (Mark 14:3)

¶ Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia; How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves; Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God. (2 Corinthians 8:1-5)

G. So the more like God we are the more we will be willing to give of our substance and to give even of ourselves.