Part II - "Our Gift Making A Return On God's Blessings!"

Just think how easy it is to reach the world with just a little joy. Let's all take a minute to imagine what might happen if we all were to "make our own individual and collective return on God's blessing". Truly we can't begin fully to comprehend the power and glory to God that comes from our collective action in unity with one another and with the Holy Spirit!

"Our Gift: Making A Return On God's Blessings!"

In Part I to this series, Pastor Scott focused on:

- 1. Giving back your very best, the first fruits of your time, your talent, your treasure
- 2. Giving back 1/10th of income, keeping only what God apportions as belonging to you.
- 3. Giving in excess, as the Lord has already blessed you in excess.
- 4. Giving freely, willingly and with a grateful heart!

"Our Gift: Making A Return On God's Blessings!"

Part II covers giving in the areas of:

- 5. Evangelism & Missions
- 6. Worship & Praise
- 7. Caring For God's Ordained Ministers/Elders & God's House
- 8. Giving God the Precious Gift of Righteousness

5. Evangelsim & Missions

5. Give Of All You Have, Hold Nothing Back From Him, Who Has Blessed & Ordained You! A. Give To God So His Glorious Name Will Be Proclaimed In All The Earth!

"I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you."

John 15:16b
"Now then, we are Ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us:

we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God."

2nd Corinthians 5:20

The greatest gift we have been given by God is love... and there is an endless supply of that love available to us through the Holy Spirit...

5. Evangelsim & Missions

5. Give Of All You Have, Hold Nothing Back From Him, Who Has Blessed & Ordained You! B. Give Generously Not Holding Anything Back To Him Who Blesses You In Abundance!

Our missionaries are called by God to take the message to all the world. We contribute to their work by giving from our excess. Our church takes a portion of the tithes and offerings contributed, and sends it off to District, in part, to help take care of missionaries both at home and abroad. This is one way that we, as a community, hold nothing back for we know that the Lord has blessed us abundantly.

"There you shall take your burnt offerings, your sacrifices, your tithes, the heave offerings of your hand, your vowed offerings, your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks ... Then there will be the place where the Lord your God chooses to make His name abide. There you shall bring all that I command you: your burnt offerings, your sacrifices, your tithes, the heave offerings of your hand, and all your choice offerings which you vow to the Lord."

Deuteronomy 12:6 & 11

"If you love Me keep My commandments."

John 14:15

Hold Nothing Back From Him!

- Burnt offerings (thanksgiving)
- Sacrifices (obedience)
- Tithes (1/10th of income)
- Vowed Offerings (promises)
- Free Will Offerings
- First Born of Herds & Flock
- Heave Offerings (set apart)

Most aspects of life are covered in this listing. The Lord says to "bring all that I command you!" Thanksgiving, obedience, finances, vows, gifts of free will that come from the heart, first fruits, and the "extra" in heave offerings.

Heave Offering

- 1) Lifted Up!
- 2) Set Apart!
- 3) Above & Beyond!
 - 4) Very Best!

"Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you." Luke 6:38

A giving and forgiving spirit reaps the benefit. "Forgive and be forgiven". "Give and it will be given to you". It will be poured upon you because when God gives God gives abundantly. It really boils down to an issue of trust. Do you trust God with all that you are? All that you have? For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you. BELIEVE Those Words.

"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need."

Malachi 3:10

"For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him will be asked even more!"

Luke 12:48b

"And Remember the Words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It Is More Blessed To Give Than To Receive!"

Acts 20:35

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6. Worship & Praise

6. Give So God's Name Will Be Glorified & Proclaimed By All The Peoples Of The Earth!

A. Give To God So His Glorious Name Will Be Revered & Worshiped On Earth!

B. Give Sacrificially & Willingly For The Building Of God's Church & His Kingdom On Earth!

"Then the leaders of the fathers' houses, leaders of the tribes of Israel, the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the officers over the king's work, offered willingly ... Then the people rejoiced, for they had offered willingly, because with a loyal heart they had offered willingly to the Lord; and King David also rejoiced greatly. But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly as this?" ... "For all things come from You, and of Your own we have given You ... I know also, my God, that You test the heart and have pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of my heart I have willingly offered all these things; and now with joy I have seen Your people, who are present here to offer willingly to You."

1st Chronicles 29:6. 9. 14. & 17

"Also, that day they offered great sacrifices, and rejoiced, for God had made them rejoice with great joy; the women and the children also rejoiced, so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard afar off."

Nehemiah 12:43

"Give to the Lord the Glory due His Name; bring an offering, and come into His courts!

Psalms 96:8

7. Caring For God's Ordained Ministers/Elders & God's House

7. Give So God's Ordained Ministers/Elders May Care For God's People!

A. Give So God's Called & Anointed Shepherds May Care For You & Those Who Are Lost!

B. Give So God's House Will Not Fall Into Disrepair & Neglect!

"And you shall bring the Levites (Priests) before the tabernacle of meeting, and you shall gather together the whole congregation of the children of Israel. So, you shall bring the Levites before the Lord, and the children of Israel shall lay their hands on the Levites; and Aaron shall offer the Levites before the Lord like a wave offering from the children of Israel, that they may perform the work of the Lord"

Numbers 8:10-11

"For the children of Israel and the children of Levi shall bring the <u>offering of the grain</u>, of the <u>new wine</u> and the oil, to the storerooms where the articles of the sanctuary are, where the <u>priests who minister</u> and the gatekeepers and the singers are; and <u>we will not neglect the house of our God."</u> ... Nehemiah 10:39-40

8. Giving God the Precious Gift of Righteousness

8. Give Your Gift Of Righteousness, So You May Be In Perfect Communion With God!

A. Give So You May Be Right With Your Creator & Savior God!

B. Give So You & Your House Will Receive Protection & Abundant Blessings From God!

"He Must Increase, but I must decrease"

John 3:30

"But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousness are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf,
And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away."

Isaiah 64:6

"For I am the Lord, I do not change; therefore, you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob. Yet from the days of your fathers, you have gone away from My ordinances and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you." Says the Lord of hosts. "But you said, 'In what way shall we return?' "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this," Says the Lord of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field" Says the Lord of hosts; "And all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land," Says the Lord of hosts!"

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone."

Matthew 23:23

"But know that the Lord has set apart for Himself him who is godly; The Lord will hear when I call Him...

Offer The Sacrifices Of Righteousness and Put Your Trust in the Lord!"

Psalms 4:5

Let Us Stand & Pray

"Oh Gracious, Loving, Creator & Father Of Us All, Who Constantly Supplies All Of Our Daily Needs, & Who Gives Us Everything Good Thing, Oh Savior, Redeemer, & Lord Jesus Christ, Who Has Blessed Us By Your Eternal Sacrifice, & Who Makes Constant Intercession For Us. Dearest Holy Spirit, Lover Of Our Souls, Great Comforter, Guide, Communicator, & Teacher, Continue To Abide Within Us!" "Oh, Help Us, The One, True, Triune Godhead, Giver Of All Life, Author Of Our Faith, Hope & Joy For Living, Giver Of Every Blessing, Help Us To Give Back To You All That We Have, Of Our Time, Our Talents, Our Tithes & Offerings!" "Oh, God Help Us, To Give Back To You Freely, Sacrificially, Joyfully, & Willingly, All That You Have Already Blessed Us With, In This Earthly Life. Oh God, Change Our Hearts, Our Minds, & Our Desires. Cause Us Oh God To Live In This World, But Be Not Consumed & Conformed To It, And Fit Us Now For Heaven. To Live Eternally With You There!"