

Giving; a sure test of your heart

Deadly Pressures part 4, Battling the indulgence of materialism and money

Introduction:

#1 Why do we _____ with giving?

Malachi 1:6-8 *6 A son honors his father, and a servant his master. Then if I am a father, where is My honor? And if I am a master, where is My respect?' says the Lord of hosts to you, O priests who despise My name. But you say, 'How have we despised Thy name?' 7 You are presenting defiled food upon My altar. But you say, 'How have we defiled Thee? 8 "when you present the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? And when you present the lame and sick, is it not evil? Why not offer it to your governor? Would he be pleased with you? Or would he receive you kindly? " Says the Lord of hosts.*

Malachi 3:8-10 *8 "Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing Me! But you say, 'How have we robbed Thee?' In tithes and offerings. 9 "You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing Me, the whole nation of you! 10 "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test 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 a blessing until it overflows.*

1st A wrong _____

2 Kings 6:15 *Now when the attendant of the man of God had risen early and gone out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was circling the city. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" 16 So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." 17 Then Elisha prayed and said, "O Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." And the Lord opened the servant's eyes, and he saw; and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.*

2nd A weak view of _____

Revelation 4:11 *Worthy art Thou, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for Thou didst create all things, and because of Thy will they existed, and were created. 5:12 Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing.*

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

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; He owns the cattle on a thousand hills*

3rd Unwilling to _____ 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. Luke 9:23 to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me...*

#2 Why do we _____ to God?

1st Our _____ follows our giving

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

2nd Our giving brings _____

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

3rd Our giving _____ those who preach the Gospel to plant churches

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

4th Our giving _____ 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 _____ do we give money to God? 1 Corinthians 16:1-4

Level 1 - _____ 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 P _____ = *Weekly*

2nd The P _____ = *Each one of you*

3rd The P _____ = *The Church* Acts 2 and 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, who will entrust the true riches to you?"*

4th The P _____ = *as you may prosper*

Attitude #1 _____ 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.*

Attitude #2 _____ 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, _____ 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 - _____ Giving

2 Corinthians 8: 1-5 *And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. Out of the most severe trial, there overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints. And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will.*

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*

1-What does my giving tell me about my _____ before God?

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

2-Is my giving a _____?

Ephesians 3:20 *Now to Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, 21 to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.*