

Pastor Ron Case
2/22/15

“Restoration” (8)

“..for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7)

God’s Generosity

John 3:16 – “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

Acts 11:16-17 – (16) “And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ (17) If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?”

Ephesians 4:8, 11 – (8) “Therefore it says, ‘When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men.’ (11) And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers,”

God’s Happy, Healthy Helpers

Acts 4:34-37 – (34) “There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold (35) and laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. (36) Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, (37) sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles’ feet.”

2 Corinthians 8:1-2 – (1) “We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, (2) for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.”

Isaiah 58:7-8 – (7) “Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? (8) **Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.**”

Key Point: Giving is the Secret to Health & Wealth

Withholding Tax

Proverbs 11:24 – “One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.”

1 Samuel 25:36-38 – (36) “And Abigail came to Nabal, and behold, he was holding a feast in his house, like the feast of a king. And Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunk. So she told him nothing at all until the morning light. (37) In the morning, when the wine had gone out of Nabal, his wife told him these things, and his heart died within him, and he became as a stone. (38) And about ten days later the LORD struck Nabal, and he died.”

Regarding Giving:

(1) Give What You've Got

“For if the readiness is there, it is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have.” (2 Corinthians 8:12)

(2) Remember Reciprocity

“I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened, but that as a matter of fairness your abundance at the present time should supply their need, so that their abundance may supply your need, that there may be fairness.” (2 Corinthians 8:13-14)

“The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.”

(2 Corinthians 9:6)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

Have I tapped into the blessing of giving? (Ps. 41:1-3; Phil. 4:14-19)

What do I have to give? (2 Kings 4:1-7; John 6:9; Rom. 12:3)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)