

Give And It Shall Be Given

Luke 6:38 NLT

38 If you give, you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, and running over. Whatever measure you use in giving--large or small--it will be used to measure what is given back to you.

The law of giving is for the giver and non-giver alike, however you choose to look at it. The universe will measure back to you what you give it. And if you refuse to give, the nature of your lack will be multiplied upon you as well. Many Christians have read this verse hundreds of times but don't really think it applies to them. It's not because you don't understand what God is saying---you get it--- it's the giving part that trips you up. You may think to yourself, "My light bill is due—I need to get my car fix, or I won't have enough to pay my mortgage!" All of these points are certainly valid and definitely understandable, however, paying your tithes guarantees that you'll have all of these things taken care of and then some.

Malachi 3:10

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that [there shall] not [be room] enough [to receive it].

For years we've been preached to from televangelists and the like about the principle of giving. We've heard it so much in fact that many Christians have just tuned it out, but we cannot maintain a fruitful relationship with God without faith, and faith dictates that we give. Through our tithing God is providing us an opportunity to be like Jesus Christ...an opportunity that guarantees our increase in every aspect of life.

All too often people consume the first fruits of their labor by wanting to keep it all for themselves. Let's set the record straight, if you're not giving it to God, you're certainly going to give it to the world. You'll give it to the world in one way or the other, and most times it will not be to your advantage. Something will come up that will require you to dig deeper in your pocket; and it's not God getting back at you, it's your seed falling on the wrong ground—bad—unproductive—unfruitful ground.

Have you ever been labeled 'cheap'? It's nothing wrong with being careful with how you spend your money, but when it comes to the principles of God, He has instructed us on how to give. He has instructed on the who, what, when and how of giving. Our Heavenly Father has done this because He wants us to have the very best that life has to offer, and not by the world's standards but by His.

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If you neglect your responsibility to give, it will cause you great discomfort in the end, but doing what is required of you will keep you in harmony and on the right path to success all the time. Listen, you certainly don't want to nickel and dime your way through life, because if you do that is all you can ever hope to receive. You want to always have a full measure of blessings coming your way all the time, running over on a large scale!

God wants us to '*get it*', He wants us to trust in Him and not focus so much of our thoughts and energy on the cares of this world. You are a child of God, you are to prosper and be in good health and if you're not I can promise you it relates to you're not giving.

Trust me, I understand very well how difficult it is to work hard all week, deal with the pressures from the job and then come home and there's more sacrifices waiting for you at home; and when the paycheck comes, you feel you don't have enough to make ends meet, let alone have enough to give 10% in tithes and offerings. But that's just it, we can't afford not to. If someone told you that at the end of every week, you'll get a handsome reward if you give them 10% of your earnings, you would break your neck to make sure you give what is necessary to get that reward.

We're not talking about rewards from a flesh and blood individual. This is the Father we're talking about. Hebrews 11:6 tells us that He's a rewarder to those who diligently seek Him. Notice the word "*diligently*". This word by its very nature implies that there might be some challenges. You might struggle in your mind with this idea of tithing, but you're to overcome that and put the things of God first in your life.

Our Heavenly Father said He would do above what we could ask or think. He said emphatically that He would open up the windows of heaven and pour us out a blessing in such abundance that we wouldn't even be able to receive it all. I don't know about you, but I want those kinds of results in my life on a perpetual basis. Not a day goes by that I wouldn't want to receive anything less than God's abundance.

You may not think so, but there are opportunities to give that are all around us. Keep your eyes and ears tuned in to ways to be a blessing.

Giving equals receiving---it's a universal law, just like reaping and sowing. Whatever you give, whether it's good or bad, will come back to you. Think of it as going to work every day, week after week. You expect to get a full week's pay for the time you put in, well this example holds true with the principle of giving. You'll get back what you put in. If you give generously, you can certainly expect to be rewarded generously.●

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