

Material Offering and the Lord's Move Today

Week 2 – Day 1

Mat 6:24 No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will hold to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

Overcome the **power** of Mammon

... every child of God has to **overcome the power of mammon**. If anyone does not overcome its power, he will have **no spiritual power**.

When we **offer up** all our money and then **receive it back** again from the Lord, the money will be very different. **Formerly, we were the masters**. Now we **become the stewards**. If we are a steward yet **waste our master's money** ... some will accuse us (**Luke 16:1**). They will say that we are wasting our master's money.... **We have to do our best to be frugal**.

... Today everyone's mind is different.... When we speak of the need of the church, different people have different thoughts and reactions.... **A person who is not serious will not do things in a serious way**. However, we cannot consider matters from our point of view. We have to **consider matters from God's point of view**. Once the problem of mammon is settled, we will be enlarged.... The reason we are in **darkness** and are not in the light is that there is the **entanglement of money**.

... **If you do not give away your money, you will not even be able to live a proper human life..., if money does not go away, a person cannot see the Lord**.

... We can be in scarcity, but we cannot become small. We cannot become small just through our scarcity. **We have to show other brothers that not one thing is our own**.

... We care only for the fact of **handling ourselves** over and not for argument. **We are not here for money**; ... **In God's eyes, money is not the main problem**. **A man hands over his money because he has first handed over himself**. You as a person are more important than your money. When a person comes, what he has will come along with him.

Week 2 – Day 2

Mat 6:21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Mat 6:31-33 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, With what shall we be clothed? For all these things the Gentiles are anxiously seeking. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Seek First His Kingdom

... money will still find its way back.... **How should we manage money?** we should not think that money will no longer have an influence, money can gradually regain its power, a believer must learn to **continually let go of his money**.

... The Christian way of **financial management** is the **way of giving**.... Today we are concerned with how a Christian should live in order to **be free from want**. **God has promised us that we will have no lack on earth.... If a brother is financially hard-pressed, he is not managing his wealth according to God's principle**.

After you have forsaken all of your possessions to follow the Lord, you should **walk according to God's principle**. If you do not follow **God's principle**, you will eventually end up in **poverty**. There is a great need for many of God's children to learn to **manage their wealth**. **If they do not learn to manage their wealth, they should expect nothing except hardship** in the way ahead of them.

Our God is a rich God. He does not need our money.... Then **why does He need our money?** It is because **where our treasure is, there will our heart be also** (Matt. 6:21). Money is a material thing that belongs to the earth. Yet the Bible puts God and mammon together. This proves that man's heart is either touched by God or by money. **God's test of a man's heart toward Him is in the way of man's giving.**

Week 2 – Day 3

1Cor 16:1 Now concerning the collection for the saints, just as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also do. On the first day of the week each one of you should lay aside in store to himself whatever he may have been prospered, that no collections be made when I come.

Luke 6:38 Give, and it will be given to you; a good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, they will give into your bosom. For with what measure you measure, it shall be measured to you in return.

“Give, and it will be given to you”

If we do not give, we are being unrighteous. The rent and utilities of the meeting hall all cost money. If we do not give, we are not doing our part, and others are paying for us to sit here. This is unrighteousness, and unrighteousness is sin. Do not think that others do not know and that we can cheat. God knows.

...First Corinthians 16:2 says, ..., “On the first day of the week each one of you should lay aside in store to himself whatever he may have been prospered.” This means that **we should set aside portions of our income ahead of time**. Of all the money that we receive, we should designate a portion which cannot be touched. **Every time we receive anything, we should set aside a portion for giving.**

...God does not want our living to be deprived in any way. Everyone who falls into deprivation falls because he has a problem in himself; he has not managed his wealth according to God's way. If we manage our money according to God's law, we will not be in poverty.

...We need to meet certain conditions before our prayers can be answered. Even our **salvation** had certain requirements to it—we had to **believe**. Every promise has conditions, and we must fulfill these conditions before we can receive the promise. Likewise, we need to fulfill God's requirement before we can **receive** His supply. His requirement is to **give**. The Lord says, **“Give, and it will be given to you.”**

Week 2 – Day 4

Acts 20:35 In all things I have shown you by example that toiling in this way we ought to support the weak and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

“with what measure we measure others, it will be measured to us in return”

... God's Word says it, and it is true. If we want to escape poverty, we have to give again and again. **The more we give, the more God will give to us.**

With what measure we measure to others, with the same measure others will measure to us.... Many people have problems with their income because they have problems with their giving.... God's Word is quite clear. If we give to others, the Lord will give to us. If we do not give to others, the Lord will not give to us. Most people only exercise **faith** when they **ask** God for money; they do not exercise **faith** in **giving** money.

..., as soon as we become Christians, **we have to learn the basic lesson of financial stewardship.** Christians have a unique way of managing their wealth: **What we receive depends on what we give.** In other words, the **Christian way** of financial stewardship is to receive according to what we give. Worldly people give according to what they have received, but we received according to what we give.

We should all look to the Lord for our needs, but God will supply the needs of only one type of people—**those who give...** When God gives man, ... He gives by pressing down, shaking together, heaping up, and running over. However, He also says that **with what measure we measure others, it will be measured to us in return.**

Week 2 – Day 5

Phi 4:17-19 Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit which increases to your account. But I have received in full all things and abound; I have been filled, receiving from Epaphroditus the things from you, a sweet-smelling savor, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God. And my God will fill your every need according to His riches, in glory, in Christ Jesus.

“will fill your every need according to His riches”

..., “My God will fill your every need according to His riches, in glory, in Christ Jesus.” ... Paul emphasized, “My God will fill every need.” The God who receives the money and the gifts will supply the needs of the givers.

... The **Christian way should not be the way of poverty.** If there is poverty or want among us, it is because some people are holding back their money. The more you love yourself, the more you will go hungry. The more importance you attach to money, the poorer you will become.... The more one holds back his money, the more miserable and depleted he becomes. This is a sure principle.

... The cattle on the thousand hills and the sheep on the ten thousand hills are His. Only foolish ones think that they have earned their own money. **A new believer must see that tithing is our duty.** We should give what we earn to take care of the poor saints. Do not be so foolish as to always receive. Do not try to save up your money or hide it away. **The Christian way is the way of giving.** Always give what you have, and you will find money becoming something living in the church.

Cast yourself upon the Word of God. Otherwise, God cannot carry out His word in you. First give yourself to God, and then **give your money again and again.** If you do this, God will have the opportunity to give to you.

Week 2 – Day 6

Matt 6:1-4 But take care not to do your righteousness before men in order to be gazed at by them; otherwise, you have no reward with your Father who is in the heavens. Therefore when you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be glorified by men. Truly I say to you, They have their reward in full. But you, when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, So that your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

“your Father who sees in secret will repay you”

Man's flesh, seeking to glorify itself, always wants to do good deeds before men to be praised by them. But the kingdom people, who live in an emptied and humbled spirit and walk in a pure and single heart

under the heavenly ruling of the kingdom, are not allowed to do anything in the flesh for the praise of men but must do all things in the spirit for the pleasing of their heavenly Father.

We must do our righteous deeds in secret, for our Father is in secret. In verse 4 the Lord says that our Father sees in secret. The kingdom people as children of the heavenly Father must live in the presence of the Father and care for the Father's presence. Whatever we do in secret for the Father's kingdom, the Father sees in secret. The heavenly Father's seeing in secret must be an incentive to doing their righteous deeds in secret. In this verse the Lord also said that the Father will repay us. This may transpire in this age (2 Cor. 9:10-11) or in the coming age as a reward (Luke 14:14).

The effect of doing our righteous deeds in secret is that the self and the flesh are killed.... Thus, for us kingdom people, a basic principle concerning righteous deed is never to make a show of ourselves. As much as possible, hide yourself, keep yourself covered, and do things in secret. We should be so hidden that, as the Lord Jesus says, our left hand does not know what our right hand is doing (Matt. 6:3). This means that we should not let others know what we are doing.

.... This is the nature of the kingdom people in the doing of their righteous deed.