SOME THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT GIVING

Sermon by Donald Townsley

I. THERE ARE THREE FACTORS WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO THE MAKING OF MONEY.

1. The man who has money contributes his part:
   (1) By his labor -- Eph. 4:28
   (2) By his service -- 2 Cor. 11:8
   (3) By selling goods or a product -- Acts 16:14
2. His fellowmen have contributed their part.
   (1) They have needed his labor, his service, and his product.
3. God has contributed His part:
   (1) 2 Cor. 9: 8, 10; Luke 6:38
4. Since three parties are involved in the making of money, three parties should be considered in the use of money.
5. Three Rich Men in the Word of God stand condemned because they did not take into consideration these principles in the use of their money:
      1. The rich man lavished his money upon himself -- Luke 16:19
      2. He had no concern for his fellowman in the use of his money --He had no concern for Lazarus who was helpless, poor, and diseased -- Luke 16: 20 - 21.
      3. He had no concern for God and His cause, who had given him his wealth.
      4. So, in the use of his wealth, he made the FATAL mistake of using his money on himself only.
   (2) The Rich Young Ruler -- Matt. 19: 16 - 22
      1. He asked Jesus, "What good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?" -- Matt. 19:16.
      2. He was told to keep the commandments and he said he had kept them -- Matt. 19:20.
      4. Jesus told him to use his wealth on his fellowmen who were poor -- Matt. 19:21.
      5. He could not bring himself to use his wealth on his fellowmen and he lost his soul -- Matt. 19:22.
      1. This man foolishly thought he could secure his future by heaping together material possessions.
      2. He thought of nobody but himself.
      3. He did not think of using any of his wealth on his fellowman, or on God's cause.
6. We TODAY must INVOLVE three parties in the use of our money:
   (1) I cannot take the money I have in my possession and use it all on myself, and be pleasing in the sight of God.
   (2) The Bible teaches I must take some of my money and help the poor -- Eph. 4:28; I John 3:17.
   (3) The Word of God teaches I must take a portion of my money and give it to the church so it can do its work -- I Cor. 16:1 - 2.
II. YOU SHOULD KNOW WHAT WE USE IN GOD'S SERVICE IS NOT LOST.

1. Give a "cup of cold water" -- receive a reward -- Matt. 10:42.
2. Cast bread on the waters -- find it -- Eccl. 11:1.
4. God multiplies your seed sown -- 2 Cor. 9:10.
5. God is able to make all grace abound toward you -- 2 Cor. 9:8.
6. It is fruit that abounds to our account -- Phil. 4:17.
8. Seek the Kingdom first -- things added -- Matt. 6:33.
9. Give and lay up in store a good foundation against the time to come -- I Tim. 6:19; Matt. 6: 19 - 20.
10. Give and God is well pleased -- Heb. 13:16.