

WHAT CAN WE GIVE TO GOD?

By Donald Townsley

Introduction

1. We generally think in terms of what God give to us – James 1:17.
2. This is impressed upon our minds in the Bible, and we have a hard time realizing we have something that God wants us to give Him.
3. Not that God must have it to exist, or to accomplish His purpose.
4. But we are indebted to Him for our life and our salvation.
 - a. Acts 17:28
 - b. John 3:16
 - c. 2 Tim. 3: 16 – 17
5. Let us look at some things we can give God that pleases Him.

I. IT PLEASES GOD WHEN WE CHOOSE TO GIVE OURSELVES TO THE LORD AND SAVE OUR SOULS.

- a. God is grieved with our sins – Eph. 4:30.
- b. God has no pleasure in the death of the wicked – Ezek. 33:11.
- c. God wants all men to be saved – I Tim. 2:4.
- d. Christ came to save the lost – Luke 19:10.
- e. When we obey the gospel, we are saved – Mark 16: 15 – 16; Rom. 6: 17 – 18.
- f. We have been bought with a price – I Cor. 6:20; I Pet. 1: 18 – 19.
- g. We are added to the church – Acts 2:47.
- h. We have given ourselves to the Lord – 2 Cor. 8:5.
- i. We are to present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God – Rom. 12:1.
 - i. Our bodies, as living sacrifices, are devoted to worship and service to God.
- j. Heaven rejoices when men give themselves to the Lord – Luke 15:7.

II. WE ARE TO GIVE GOD OUR LOVE

- a. *“We love Him, because he first loved us”* . . . I John 4:19.
- b. God manifested His love while we were yet sinners – Rom. 5:8; John 3:16.
- c. We are to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind – Matt. 22:37.
- d. We show Him our love by keeping His commandments – I John 5:5; John 14:15.
 - i. His commandments are not grievous – I John 5:3.

III. WE ARE TO GIVE GOD SOME OF OUR TIME.

- a. Paul said we are to *“redeem the time”* – Eph. 5: 14.
 - i. Footnote: *“buying up the opportunity” ASV*
 - ii. We are to work speedily, using our time wisely.
 - iii. Know what to do and when to do it.
 - iv. Rom. 13: 11 – 14.
- b. Because the *“days are evil”*—Eph. 5:14.
 - i. Temptation on every hand – I Cor. 10:13.
 - ii. There is persecution – Matt. 5:10 – 12.
 - iii. Religious foes unite to fight the truth.

- iv. False doctrine is rampant – I John 4:1.
 - v. Satan hinders – I Thess. 2:18; Gal. 5:7.
- c. We must not waste time:
 - i. Worrying – Matt. 6:25.
 - ii. In Idleness.
- d. We must take time to serve God.
 - i. To Pray – Luke 18:1.
 - ii. To Study – 2 Tim. 2:15.
 - iii. To Worship – John 4: 23 – 24.
 - iv. To Visit.

IV. WE ARE TO GIVE OUR ABILITY INTO HIS SERVICE

- a. In Matthew 25, the parable of talents teaches us WE ALL HAVE ABILITY AND WE MUST USE THAT ABILITY.
- b. Each person receives something – Matt. 25: 14 – 15.
- c. Each man was given an amount in keeping with his ABILITY.
- d. God does not expect of us what we cannot do – 2 Cor. 8:12.
- e. Our native abilities differ – Rom. 12: 4 – 8.
- f. The man that was given the ONE talent failed to use what he had and was condemned and lost – Matt. 25: 24, 30.
- g. God wants us to use our ability in His service:
 - i. Teaching – Matt. 28: 19 – 20.
 - ii. Preaching
 - iii. Leading singing
 - iv. Encouraging others – I Thess. 5: 14.
 - v. Teaching others – Acts 5:42.
 - vi. Visiting the sick.
 - vii. Leading prayer.
 - viii. Helping with the Lord's table.
 - ix. Developing into an elder.
 - x. Developing into a deacon.

V. WE CAN GIVE OUR MONEY

- a. Each Christian is a steward of God, and must give an account of his stewardship – I Pet. 4:10.
- b. God has entrusted us with everything that we have.
- c. We are to give back into His service according to His instructions:
 - i. As we have prospered – I Cor. 16:2.
 - ii. Regularly – “*upon the first day of the week*”—I Cor. 16:1 – 2.
 - iii. As we have purposed in our heart – 2 Cor. 9:7.
 - iv. We are to give cheerfully – 2 Cor. 9:7.
 - v. Bountifully – 2 Cor. 9:6.

CONCLUSION

- We often talk about how much the Lord means to us, but our lives many times fail to substantiate it.
- These are some things we can give to God.
- Are we giving them?

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