

# Spiritual Gift of “Giving” – Romans 12:6-8 (Part 11 of 16)

## **Romans 12:6-8**

6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, **let us use them:** if prophecy, *let us prophesy* in proportion to our faith;

7 or ministry, *let us use it* in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching;

8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; **he who gives, with liberality**; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

**1 Corinthians 12:11** But one and the same Spirit works all these things, **distributing to each one. . . individually . . . as He wills.**

## The Gift of Giving

- Let me make **one point before we go any further:** the gift of giving is different from the encouragement of scripture to all believers to give.
- Every Christian is to give a portion of their income to the Lord.
  - **Tithes:** 10% of the gross, not the net – to benefit the priesthood
  - **Offerings:** another 10% to benefit the temple
  - **Alms:** another 10% to benefit the poor outside the church
    - Considered to be the bare minimum in the Old Testament
- **It has been stated that if everyone in the church was on welfare and tithed on that gross income per month the annual budget of all churches would more than double.** (Peter Wagner)

## Jesus said:

**Luke 6:38** Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.”

## Paul said:

**2 Corinthians 9:6** But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

**Malachi 3:6** “**For I am the LORD, I do not change**

**Malachi 3:8-12** “Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, ‘In what way have we robbed You?’ **In tithes and offerings.**

9 You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, *Even* this whole nation.

10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this,” Says the LORD of hosts, “If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you *such* blessing That *there will not be room* enough to receive it.

11 “And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,” Says the LORD of hosts;

12 And all nations will call you blessed, For you will be a delightful land,” Says the LORD of hosts.

- **These are not tough concepts – but when it comes to money everything becomes tough.**
- **Christian maturity is typically gauged by their level of commitment to giving.**
- **Every Christian should be a “giver”**
- **Some special Christians are gifted to be Olympic givers.**
  - **Special “givers” are typically those that God gives much to.**
  - **Remember what Jesus said?**
    - **Give little and you shall receive little**
    - **Give much and you shall receive much**

**Luke 12:48** . . . For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.

- **“The gift of giving is the special ability God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to contribute their material resources to the work of the Lord with liberality and cheerfulness.”** (C.Peter Wagner, *Your Spiritual Gifts Can Help Your Church To Grow*, pg 96)
- **“To give”:** μεταδίδομι [*metadidomi /met·ad·id·o·mee/*] v. 5 occurrences; AV translates as “impart” 3 times, and “give” twice.  
1 to impart.
- **“With Liberality”:** ἀπλότης [*haplotes /hap·lot·ace/*] n f. From 573; TDNT 1:386; TDNTA 65; GK 605; Eight occurrences; AV translates as “simplicity” three times, “singleness” twice, “liberality” once, “bountifulness” once, and “liberty” once.<sup>1</sup>  
1 **singleness, simplicity, sincerity, mental honesty.**  
1A the virtue of one who is free from pretence and hypocrisy.  
2 **not self seeking, openness of heart manifesting itself by generosity.**
- **Those that give in maturity do it this way:**
  - **Give with “simplicity”**

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n n: noun or neuter

f f: feminine

TDNT Theological Dictionary of the New Testament

TDNTA Theological Dictionary of the New Testament, Abridged in One Volume

GK Goodrick-Kohlenberger

AV Authorized Version

<sup>1</sup>Strong, J. (1996). *The exhaustive concordance of the Bible : Showing every word of the test of the common English version of the canonical books, and every occurrence of each word in regular order.* (electronic ed.) (G572). Ontario: Woodside Bible Fellowship.

- This is the meaning of the word we find in Romans 12:8
  - Never a string attached
  - Never stipulations as to how specifically the funds are to be spent.
  - Does not exclude “designated” giving – which must be followed.
- **Give without calling attention to yourself**
- Jesus said:  
**Matthew 6:2-4** Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.  
**3** But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,  
**4** that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.
- **Give willingly – from the heart – hilariously.**
- God doesn’t want our sacrifices if they are given through anger or with malice  
**Exodus 25:1-2**  
**1** Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying:  
**2** “Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering. **From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take My offering.**
- 2 Cor. 9:7** So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; **for God loves a cheerful giver.**
- Our word “hilarious” comes from ἡλαρον [*hilaron*] which is from ἡλαος [*hilaos*] (propitious), an old and common adjective, only here in N.T.<sup>2</sup>
- Exodus 35:4-5**  
**4** And Moses spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying, “This is the thing which the LORD commanded, saying:  
**5** ‘Take from among you an offering to the LORD. Whoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it as an offering to the LORD: gold, silver, and bronze;
- Exodus 35:20-22**  
**20** And all the congregation of the children of Israel departed from the presence of Moses.  
**21** Then everyone came whose heart was stirred, and everyone whose spirit was willing, and they brought the LORD’s offering for the work of the tabernacle of meeting, for all its service, and for the holy garments.  
**22** They came, both men and women, as many as had a willing heart, and brought earrings and nose rings, rings and necklaces, all jewelry of gold, that is, every man who made an offering of gold to the LORD.