

The Rewards Of Giving

Sharing or giving, comes in different sizes, shapes and packages.

Giving means outflowing love and consideration for the good and welfare of others, the way of give.

It means helping, co-operating, sharing, loving, promoting happiness and peace.

This is diametrically opposite from the way of getting, which is how most of the world lives.

Getting means trying to take for one's self without any concern for the comfort or profit of anyone else.

It means the way of jealousy, envy, strife, hostility, wanting only to acquire and receive.

The world's way of gaining wealth and security is by keeping, hoarding and trying to gain more for self.

But what is the wise person's way to security?

Proverbs 19:17 [New King James] *"He who has pity on the poor lends to the LORD, and He will pay back what he has given."*

To a world who does not know the true God this makes no sense at all.

Proverbs 22:9 [NIV] *"A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor."*

The same wisdom is found in the New Testament, [**2 Corinthians 9:6-8**]

Proverbs 11:24-25 [New King James] *"There is one who scatters, yet increases more; and there is one who withholds more than is right, but it leads to poverty. The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself."*

When we give, God supplies us with more so that we can give more. In addition, it helps us to gain a right perspective on our possessions.

We realise possessions were never really ours to begin with, they were given to us by God to be used as wise stewards to help others in need.

A person who hoards everything is miserable and cheats themselves of the joy of giving, unfortunately many who do give forfeit the benefits and joy of giving because of their begrudging attitude.

2 Corinthians 8:9 [New King James] *"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich."*

Jesus Christ is the perfect example of giving for us to follow.

Philippians 2:5-8 [New King James] *"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross."*

Like Jesus Christ, we should have a servant's attitude of mind, being willing to sacrifice self in order that the needs of others will be supplied.

2 Corinthians 8:12-15 [New King James] *“For if there is first a willing mind, it is accepted according to what one has, and not according to what he does not have. For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened; but by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may supply their lack, that their abundance also may supply your lack, that there may be equality. As it is written, ‘He who gathered much had nothing left over, and he who gathered little had no lack.’”*

This gives us a balance to our giving but also an assurance that if we give generously we do not have to fear need ourselves, [**2 Corinthians 9:6-8**].

Wouldn't it be wonderful if everyone lived God's way of giving?

Everyone will in the wonderful future world after the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

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