

- Ps 145:13b - the Lord is faithful to all his **promises**.
 - Josh 21.45 - not one of the good **promises** the Lord made to Israel failed; all came to pass!
 - 2 Cor 1.20 - as many as are the **promises** of God, in Christ they are all ‘yes!’
- Our GOD is so loving that He tells us all through Scripture (1) WHO owns our money; (2) the PERSPECTIVE to have on money; (3) THE JOY OF GIVING our money away; (4) the way to STORE UP treasures in heaven by sending our money ahead!

- Consider how important God sees our generous, financial giving!
 - Luke 6.38 - Give and it will be given to you.
 - Acts 20.35 - it is more blessed to give than to receive.
 - Prov 11.25 - the generous soul will be made fat.
 - Prov 19.17 - he who pities the poor lends to the Lord.
 - Matt 5.7 - blessed are the merciful for they will be shown mercy.
 - 2 Cor 9.6 - He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.
 - 2 Cor 9.7 - God loves a generous giver!

- If you notice the verses in the New Testament on giving: the Epistles speak of giving (1) TO your church; (2) WITH generosity; (3) out of a JOY-FILLED heart; (4) FOR the advancement of the GOSPEL locally & globally!
- **Christian!** “IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO OUTGIVE GOD!”

We could almost label this section with the header: ***“A Theology of Christian Giving”***

THESIS — WHAT ARE SOME PRINCIPLES WE CAN GLEAN ABOUT MONETARY GIVING?
We’ll see 5 principles!

I. GIVE TO YOUR LOCAL CHURCH PRIMARILY & REGULARLY! (15-16)

2 Cor 8.7 - ‘see that you abound in this gracious work also’

II. GIVE KNOWING IT’S A SPIRITUAL ACT OF WORSHIP! **(17, 18b)**

- **“The PROFIT” (Gk: ‘fruit’)**

1. when they give there is "PROFIT" (lit: 'fruit') that increases to your account. (fulfilling his prayer for them in Phil 1:11)
2. **“Money that is given to help another Christian is called “FRUIT”**
3. What kind of fruit?

Paul turns from using **“banking”** language to **“sacrificial”** language:

Their giving is:

1. A fragrant aroma
2. An acceptable sacrifice
3. Well-pleasing to God!

III. GIVE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE GOSPEL! (18a)

God uses believers to supply & equip & send other believers to do gospel work & advance the gospel! We all are laborers together: Some SEND. Others GO! We all serve in the advancement of the gospel together!

It’s a barometer of our spiritual health. You wanna know where your heart is: then look at where your treasures go!
Store up treasures in heaven by sending it ahead!

IV. GIVE AS YOU TRUST GOD TO SUPPLY ALL YOUR NEEDS! (19)

- James Montgomery Boice called v.19 - “the greatest promise in the entire Bible ...b/c it includes all other promises!”
- D.A. Carson: And IN YOUR GENEROUS GIVING, you can rely on GOD to meet your needs (4:19)

Some thoughts as we exegete & uncover the meat from verse 19:

1. **POWER** of God - "God"
2. **PERSONAL** nature of God - "MY God"
3. **PROMISE** of PROVISION of God - WILL SUPPLY/fulfill
4. **PLENTEOUSNESS** of God - all your needs
5. **PLACE** of provision -- ACCORDING TO HIS RICHES IN GLORY
6. **PATHWAY** to blessing - In Christ Jesus

V.GIVE TO THE GLORY OF OUR ETERNAL GOD! (20)

Doxology -- an appropriate response to all that God has done for believers in Christ!

Paul’s exultation of God in v.20:

1. Exclusivity of God (“God”)
2. Family of God (“Our”)
3. Fatherhood of God (“Father”)
4. Glory of God (“be glory”)
5. Worship of God (*he is worthy*)
6. Eternality of God (forever & ever)

When we realize we give GOD’s money to do GOD’s work, to advance GOD’s gospel, we receive great PEACE & JOY all the while depending on GOD’s promises to provide for all our needs.

Jesus I Come

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,
Jesus, I come; Jesus I come.

Into Thy freedom, gladness and light,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my sickness into Thy health,
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into Thyself,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Into the glorious gain of Thy cross,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of earth’s sorrows into Thy balm,
Out of life’s storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Into Thy blessed will to abide,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of myself to dwell in Thy love,
Out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Into the joy and light of Thy home,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the depths of ruin untold,
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
Ever Thy glorious face to behold,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Take My Life and Let It Be

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.

Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless
praise.

Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy
love.

Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King.

Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from Thee.
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.

Take my intellect, and use every power as Thou shalt choose.
Every power as Thou shalt choose

Take my will, and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal throne.
It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour at Thy feet its treasure store.

Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.
Ever, only, all for Thee.