

TOPIC: GIVING AS A RESPONSIBILITY

TEXT: Luke 20:21-25 (KJV)

Emph. Vs.25 *And he said unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's.*

Luke 6:38 (KJV) Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

BIBLE READING (*For the week*): Matthew 6:1-end

INTRODUCTION:

Knowing that giving is a commandment of God gives us a sense of responsibility and motivates us to give to the work of God. In the world system of government, the citizens and those that belong to such system pay taxes as part of their civic duty in order to build and run a safe and admirable society. As giving to the government is to the taxpayer, so giving to the Kingdom is to the believer. In like manner the Church as the body of Christ here on earth has the responsibility to take care of God's interests and members of the Church (Acts 4:33-35). Though there are a number of Godly platforms for giving, however we still have a responsibility to give and support our local church. The Bible saith through prosperity shall the Gospel be preached abroad, which is one of the primary responsibilities of the church among others. While it is true that we can take up a few of these responsibilities individually, we can achieve a lot more by pulling together resources and administering it through our local churches. Today, we will be looking at giving as a responsibility for every member of the Church of Christ.

DISCUSSION:

1. What are the various ways we can give to God and His church? Let's Discuss.
2. Jesus approved paying taxes to the government and giving to the Kingdom of God. Therefore, it is our responsibility as Christians to give to the church in the form of offering, tithes, firstfruits, prophetic seed, etc. The following are some reasons why we need to give to the church, viz:
 - a. *For the welfare of church members who are in need (Acts 4:33-35).*
 - b. *For the propagation of the Gospel of Christ to the world (Philippians 4:14-15).*
 - c. *For church administrative expenses, utility bills and maintenance of the church facilities.*
 - d. *Benevolence through giving to the needy in the society (Gal. 6:10).*
 - e. *Salary of full-time pastors and church staff (1 Corinthians 9:6-8, 13-14).*

CONCLUSION:

God wants us to give because He knows how blessed we shall be as we give generously to Him and to others. Giving is a Kingdom principle – it brings much blessing to the giver. *2 Corinthians 9:6-10 (KJV) But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. 7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: 9 (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever. 10 Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;).* It is much better to give than to receive. And the more you give the more you get. And as you give to God, may His power rest upon you and may your labor of love never be in vain in Jesus mighty name. Remain blessed and abundantly lifted.