

Giving God's Way

by Myles Wilson



Throughout scripture God has outlined his principles for our use of the resources he has given us, and the results and implications of following or not following these principles.

1. God is a giver by nature and he has created a giving universe.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. - John 3:16

2. God owns it all.

But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand. - 1 Chronicles 29:14

3. God wants everything used to the full.

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy and where thieves do not break in and steal. - Matthew 6:19-21

4. We look after it all.

Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that lives on the ground. - Genesis 1:26-30 (note v28)

5. Give from what God has, not from what you think you have.

And God is able to make all grace abound to you so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. - 2 Corinthians 9:8

6. God's way of giving includes the promise of a return.

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving. - 2 Corinthians 9:6, 10-11

7. God wants his children to give cheerfully.

Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. - 2 Corinthians 9:7

Summary: maximize your giving by...

- giving with generosity
- giving your best
- giving with the needs of others in mind
- giving with a spirit of thankfulness and praise
- giving in a way that your resources will be multiplied
- giving with expectancy
- giving now, not later