

## The Law of Giving

Most precious resource - Investment of your time - don't spend your time invest it

5 areas you should invest your time: - yourself, your family, your learning, your network and your investments

Gal 6:4 - Careful exploration in who you are and the work you have been given and then sink yourself into it.

The kingdom of God operates a multiplication paradigm - there is an administration of your gifting that will put you in the multiplication quadrant - catapulted Keanu Reeves from \$10m to \$245million - the power of leverage.

Your investment is your seed - Eat your bread, sow your seed. God can only multiply seed sown.

You cannot contravene the rules of investment and expect a return.

The farmer cannot contravene the rules of planting and receive fruit - It is grace that provided the means to take one seed and produce a harvest. It takes faith to obey what grace has provided - it takes faith to plant the seed. Faith cannot be used to contravene the laws that God has put in place. It is not faith for the farmer to say, I believe God, I will not plant the seed and I will receive fruit. That's not faith that is foolishness. It takes faith to operate by the grace of God. It takes faith to plant the seed and go to bed and get up.

Today, I am going to speak about the investments that will produce the highest return.

God is not into 'charitable' giving. The Jews are the shrewdest people on the face of the earth. The Jews as a nation drew their mentality from the teachings of the Torah. Stop making charitable donations to the kingdom of God, start developing an investment mentality when it comes to giving to the Kingdom.

Prov 11: 24-25 - this verse finds its highest manifestation in affairs to do with the kingdom of God. There is he who scatters/increases, **shall be made**, will attract grace - favour, earthly blessing, an open door. **Your investment in His Kingdom is the highest demonstration of your faith in Him as your source of supply.**

Withhold - God is not advocating that you give everything or respond to some kind of pressure or the other imposed by man; but he says 'more than is right' and it leads to poverty - this is someone who gives but gives the wrong proportion, this action **puts you on a path of shrinkage. You get smaller and smaller.** There are people investing today but investing such a small amount that it makes no difference in their lives. (N1000/month @18% over 20 years is 2 million)

Mat 6:19-21 - He is against extravagant materialism that ties a man to the earth. Treasure in heaven; 1 John 2:17 - the world passes away and the lust thereof but he that does the will of God stays forever. **Where is your treasure? Your investments dictate where your heart is.** Are you tied to the earth and its economy or tied into God and his economy. It says in the earth's economy, moth rust will corrupt and thieves steal. The best investment has risks associated with: inflation, taxes, corruption but he says make sure you are invested in an economy that will always give you a return that inflation cannot destroy, will not be devalued and will not be corrupted.

Four levels of investment in the kingdom

## 1. Investment In The Poor

Exodus 22:25 - why? Prov 19:17 - The Lord will never be a debtor to any man.

Ps 41: 1-3 - sometimes it is the prayer of faith that raises people up. Sometimes someone doesn't know how to walk by faith but somehow they just happen to get through. You can't normally predict the sovereignty of God but it appears that in some instances, you can. God will move on this person's behalf. **Grace is given to the investor in the poor**

Let us see another manifestation of this: Who was the first non-jew to enter into the Kingdom of God? Why was he chosen?

Acts 10:1 - 8 - vs 4 - your prayers and your alms have come up as a memorial before God

'your offerings have come up... and he has kept them in mind'

'He has seen what you give to poor... as a sacrifice to be remembered'

'your acts...have come to the notice'

**My investment in the poor speak on my behalf in the presence of God**

## 2. Sowing Seed

Your money is your seed - be diverse in your investments when you are young when you are old. Your seed goes into your future and keeps you secure in times of hardship.

Ps 126: 5-6 - precious seed

You can consciously sow seed into your future

Luke 6:38 - give and it will be given to you

**Your sowing is a demonstration of your faith in God and connects you with his grace.**

Genesis 20:1-10, 14-18, 21:1-2

Invest in others what you want to see in yourself

Don't wait for God to give you what you want; trust in his provision and act.

You want to get married? Invest your time in helping out on the marriage course.

Are you believing God for children? Invest your time in children's church - let that be a demonstration of the fact that you trust God for a child.

1998 - Honda Prelude - Invested it into my future

2006 - VW Sharan - Invested it into my future

I'm getting ready to invest another one into my future

Few months ago someone gave me a car. I appreciated it, but I wasn't surprised. I have investments in the kingdom of God and the Kingdom of God is producing for me. I am empowered with Grace.

Mark 4:26 -

2Cor 9:6-8 - makes grace about toward you. Grace - favour and earthly blessing

- you will get an investment opportunity that no one else would
- you will be taken to the front of the line
- you will be introduced to the person you have no business meeting
- you will be bumped up to business class when you paid economy and you will be sitting next to the CEO you need for your next promotion - Grace!!!!

But you will let the harvest go to waste if:

- not put aside money for investment
- not prepared
- no elevator pitch ready; the business plan is not complete
- no well thought through business idea to present to the CEO that will usher his business into uncontested market space.

Your seed will get you into the palace of Pharaoh but it will not interpret the dream nor produce the strategy for Egypt's deliverance - it is wisdom that will do that.

3. Tithing/Proportional Giving - to the church

Alms - to the poor

Seed - into your future

Honour the Lord - Pr 3:9 - the honour (manifested respect) of the Lord is expressed in your tithe and offering to the church.

firstfruit - of all increase should come into the house of God - your barns will be filled with plenty and your vats will overflow with new wine.

Deut 26:1- some of the 1st of all , place his name abide and you shall say  
vs 8 - 10 - worship

Mal 1:6-8 - If we bring your salary on this altar and separate what you offer to the Lord, is it honourable? Does it give honour to him. Is it adequate recognition of the fact that it is he that empowers you to prosper?

Mal 3: 10 - Tithes means 10th. **Dont withhold more than is meet**

Abraham gave a 10th - Genesis 14: 18 - 20

Isaac gave a 10th - Geneiss 28: 20 - 22

Under the old testament - 10th

The Jews today - 10%

1Cor 16:2 - The New Testament directs that each one should offer to the Lord 'first' - this is what honours the Lord. What proportion? If you are smart, start with 10%

J.L. Kraft, head of the Kraft Cheese Corporation, who had given approximately 25% of his enormous income to Christian causes for many years, said, "The only investment I ever made which has paid consistently increasing dividends is the money I have given to the Lord."

J.D. Rockefeller said, "I never would have been able to tithe the first million dollars I ever made if I had not tithed my first salary, which was \$1.50 per week."

Mal 3:10 - that there may be meat in my house - resources in the house of God to do the work of the kingdom

The 'meat' in the house are for the benefit of the house.

'Prove me now' - As we tithe we walk in the **Grace of God**

Haggai 1: 4-10 -

'I will rebuke the devourer for your sake.'

#### 4. Investment in a Spirit of a Spiritual work

Gal 6:7-8 - a man's harvest in life is made up entirely of what he sows - if you sow into the spirit of a work, you will receive of it.

2 Kings 4:8- 17 - if you don't honour those that God has put into your life to bless you, you will not receive of the grace on their lives. if you criticize the church you attend or the country in which you live, you will not receive from it.