

Discipleship

Lesson #09

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Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbibleministries.org

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Psa. 100:1, “Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands!

Psa. 100:2, “Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before His presence with singing.

Psa. 100:3, “Know that the LORD, He is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.”

“Like a River Glorious”

Isaiah 48:18, “If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your righteousness like the waves of the sea.”

Isa. 26:3, “You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.

Isa. 26:4, “Trust in the LORD forever, for in YAH, the LORD, is everlasting strength.”



DISCIPLESHIP

IMITATORS OF CHRIST

**Are We Willing to Use the Resources
God Has Given us According to God's
Priorities and Purposes—Part 2?**

1 Cor. 4:1–2; 2 Cor. 8:1–9

1 Cor. 4:1, “Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.

1 Cor. 4:2, “Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.”

Psa. 24:1,

**“The earth is the LORD’S, and all its
fullness,
The world and those who dwell therein.”**

The Failure of the Prosperity Test

Deut. 8:17, “then you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth.’”

Deut. 8:18, “ ‘And you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.’”

**** All that we have—our time, talents, treasures—are provided by God for our responsible use.**

We do not own them. We are managers of them. Owner emphasizes *personal rights*, a steward has *responsibilities*.

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1 Cor. 4:2, “Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.”

**ὑπηρέτης (*hypēretēs*),
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officers of the
synagogue, or
Chief Priests and
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πιστός *pistos* nom
masc sing (verbal)
faithful, reliable,
trustworthy;
dependable

We manage the gifts God gave use

1 Pet. 4:10, “As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”

We must manage the time God gave us

Eph. 5:15, “See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,

Eph. 5:16, “redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Eph. 5:17, “Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.”

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**ἐξαγοράζω *exagorazō*
pres mid part masc
plur nom to buy
time, redeem; “by
redeeming the time”**

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**Psa. 90:10, “The days of our lives are
seventy years; And if by reason of strength
they are eighty years, yet their boast is only
labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and
we fly away.”**

If you are 30, you have 14,610 days until your are 70;

If 40: 10,957 days,

If 50 you have 7,305 days,

If 60 then 3,652 days.

If you live by God's grace until 80, then you have an additional 3,652 days.

How will we use that time?

John 8:31, “Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, ‘If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.’ ”

The Responsible Management of Our Financial Resources

An Example of Free Will Giving

Gen. 14:19, “And he blessed him and said: ‘Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth;

Gen. 14:20, “ ‘And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand.’ And he gave him a tithe of all.”

Heb. 7:4, “Now consider how great this man was, to whom even the patriarch Abraham gave a tenth of the spoils.”

The First Tithe

Num. 18:21, “Behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tithes in Israel as an inheritance in return for the work which they perform, the work of the tabernacle of meeting.”

Num. 18:23, “But the Levites shall perform the work of the tabernacle of meeting, and they shall bear their iniquity; it shall be a statute forever, throughout your generations, that among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance.”

The First Tithe

Num. 18:24, “For the tithes of the children of Israel, which they offer up as a heave offering to the LORD, I have given to the Levites as an inheritance; therefore I have said to them, ‘Among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance.’ ”

The Second Tithe

Deut. 14:22, “You shall truly tithe all the increase of your grain that the field produces year by year.

Deut. 14:23, “And you shall eat before the LORD your God, in the place where He chooses to make His name abide, the tithe of your grain and your new wine and your oil, of the firstborn of your herds and your flocks, that you may learn to fear the LORD your God always.”

The Second Tithe

Deut. 14:26, “And you shall spend that money for whatever your heart desires: for oxen or sheep, for wine or similar drink, for whatever your heart desires; you shall eat there before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice, you and your household.

Deut. 14:27, “You shall not forsake the Levite who is within your gates, for he has no part nor inheritance with you.”

The Third Tithe

Deut. 14:28, “At the end of every third year you shall bring out the tithe of your produce of that year and store it up within your gates.”

Deut. 14:29, “And the Levite, because he has no portion nor inheritance with you, and the stranger and the fatherless and the widow who are within your gates, may come and eat and be satisfied, that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hand which you do.”

Free Will Giving (also Deut. 16:9–12; Lev. 22:17–22)

Ex. 25:2, “Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering. From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take My offering.”

Free Will Giving (also Deut. 16:9–12; Lev. 22:17–22)

Ex. 35:21, “Then everyone came whose heart was stirred, and everyone whose spirit was willing, and they brought the LORD’S offering for the work of the tabernacle of meeting, for all its service, and for the holy garments.

Ex. 35:22, “They came, both men and women, as many as had a willing heart, and brought earrings and nose rings, rings and necklaces, all jewelry of gold, that is, every man who made an offering of gold to the LORD.”

Deut. 12:6, “There you shall take your burnt offerings, your sacrifices, your tithes, the heave offerings of your hand, your vowed offerings, your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks.”

Mal. 3:7, “ ‘Yet from the days of your fathers you have gone away from My ordinances and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you,’ says the LORD of hosts. ‘But you said, “In what way shall we return?””

Mal. 3:8, “ ‘Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, “In what way have we robbed You?” In tithes and offerings.’ ”

Mal. 3:9, “You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, even this whole nation.

Mal. 3:10, “ ‘Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,’ says the LORD of hosts, ‘If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.’ ”

New Testament Giving

2 Cor. 8:1ff

2 Cor. 8:1, “Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia:

2 Cor. 8:2, “that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality.”



MACEDONIA

THRACE

Byzantium
(Istanbul)

Philippi

Thessalonica

Amphipolis

Apollonia

Thasos

Samothrace

MARMARA
SEA

Nicaea

Sangarius River

Berea

Troas

Lemnos

Lesbos

Pergamum

ASIA

Mitylene

Delphi

Evvoia

AEGEAN
SEA

Chios

Smyrna

Sardis

Antioch in
Pisidia

Athens

Chios

Ephesus

Laodicea

Corinth

Samos

Miletus

ACHAIA

Naxos

Patmos

CARIA

PAMPHYLIA

Sparta

LYCIA

Attalia

Rhodes

N

New Testament Giving

1 Cor. 16:1, “Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also:

1 Cor. 16:2, “On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.”

Rom. 15:26, “For it pleased those from Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor among the saints who are in Jerusalem.

Rom. 15:27, “It pleased them indeed, and they are their debtors. For if the Gentiles have been partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister to them in material things.”

Acts 24:17, “Now after many years I came to bring alms and offerings to my nation,”

New Testament Giving

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2 Cor. 8:2, “that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality.”

**δοκιμή *dokimē* dat fem
sing**

**test for evaluation, for
approval**

New Testament Giving

2 Cor. 8:1ff

2 Cor. 8:3, “For I bear witness that according to their ability, yes, and beyond their ability, they were freely willing,”

αὐθαίρετος *authairetos*

nom masc plur

of one's own accord

New Testament Giving

2 Cor. 8:1ff

2 Cor. 8:4, “imploring us with much urgency that we would receive the gift [*charis grace gift*] and the fellowship [partnership] of the ministering to the saints.

2 Cor. 8:5, “And not only as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of God.”

New Testament Giving

2 Cor. 8:1ff

2 Cor. 8:6, “So we urged Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also complete this grace [*charis grace gift*] in you as well.”

New Testament Giving

2 Cor. 8:1ff

2 Cor. 8:7, “But as you abound in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us—see that you abound in this grace also.

2 Cor. 8:8, “I speak not by commandment, but I am testing the sincerity of your love by the diligence of others.”

δοκιμάζω dokimazō

pres act part masc sing nom

to prove, approve, test

New Testament Giving

2 Cor. 8:1ff

2 Cor. 8:9, “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.”

New Testament Giving

2 Cor. 9:5ff

2 Cor. 9:5, “Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren to go to you ahead of time, and prepare your generous gift beforehand, which you had previously promised, that it may be ready as a matter of generosity and not as a grudging obligation.”

New Testament Giving

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1 Cor. 16:2, “On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.”

New Testament Giving

2 Cor. 9:5ff

2 Cor. 9:6, “But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

2 Cor. 9:7, “So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.”

New Testament Giving

2 Cor. 9:5ff

2 Cor. 9:8, “And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. (Prov. 11:24–26)

2 Cor. 9:9, “As it is written: ‘*He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever.*’

2 Cor. 9:10, “Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness,”

New Testament Giving

1 Cor. 16:2ff

2 Cor. 9:11, “while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.”

New Testament Giving

Phil. 4:15, “Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only.

Phil. 4:16, “For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities.”

New Testament Giving

Phil. 4:19, “And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”