

Rewards and Roadblocks to Giving

Matthew 10:40-42

God Tracks Our Smallest Acts of Kindness

- And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward. (Matt. 10:42)**
- So a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear the LORD and who meditate on His name. (Mal. 3:16b)**
- Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account. (Phil. 4:17)**
- But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased (Heb. 13:16)**

Christ Will Reward Us for Giving To Those Who Cannot Repay Us

- Then He also said to him who invited Him, “When you give a dinner or a supper, do not ask your friends, your brothers, your relatives, nor rich neighbors, lest they also invite you back, and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just.
(Luke 14:12-14)**

My Heart Goes Where I Put God's Money

- Do we really believe these words? “To live is Christ, and to die is gain.” (Phil. 1:21)**
- Moses left Egypt's treasures “for he looked to the reward.” (Heb. 11:26)**
- He who spends his life moving away from his treasures has reason to despair. He who spends his life moving toward his treasures has reason to rejoice. Are you despairing or rejoicing?**

Heaven, Not Earth, Is My Home

- **Strangers and Pilgrims (Heb. 11:13)**
- **Ambassadors for Christ (2 Cor. 5:20)**
- **Citizens of a Heavenly Country (Heb. 11:16)**
- **Travelers Going to a Wedding (Rev. 19:7-9)**
- **In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. (John 14:2-3)**

Sooner or Later, Everything We Own Ends Up in the Landfill

- And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever. (1 John 2:17)**
- ...both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness (2 Pet. 3:10-11)**

Are You Living for the Dot or the Line?



**The Dot:
Life on
Earth**

**The Line:
Life in
Heaven**

Our World Has “Possession Obsession”

- W. H. Vanderbilt – The care of \$200 million is enough to kill anyone. There is no pleasure in it.**
- John Jacob Astor – I am the most miserable man on earth.**
- John D. Rockefeller – I have made many millions, but they have brought me no happiness.**
- Andrew Carnegie – Millionaires seldom smile.**
- Henry Ford – I was happier when doing a mechanic’s job.**

Are You Chasing the Wind?

- Ecclesiastes 5:10-15**
- He who loves silver will not be satisfied with silver; nor he who loves abundance, with increase. (v. 10)**
- When goods increase, they increase who eat them. (v. 11)**
- The abundance of the rich will not permit him to sleep. (v. 12)**
- He shall take nothing from his labor which he may carry away in his hand. (v. 15)**

Giving Is the Only Antidote to Materialism

- **1 Tim. 6:17-19 – Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.**