

Acceptable Giving



By
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How much should we give?

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- ❖ **Some bind a tenth or tithe based upon examples in the O.T.**
 - **Abraham gave a tenth to Melchizedek.**
 - **Jacob promised to give a tenth if God would prosper him.**
 - **The Jews gave 10 – 30%.**

Tithe binding on us?

❖ No, we are NOT under the O.T. Law

➤ **Colossians 2:14 (NKJV)**

- Having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. ***And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.***

How much should we give?

The New Testament teaches that we should give enough that our giving is a sacrifice.

How much should we give?

- **Paul spoke of the Philippians' support as a sacrifice**
- **Philippians 4:18 (NKJV)**
¹⁸ Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things *sent* from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, **an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God.**

How much should we give?

Examples

Examples

- **King David wouldn't give to the Lord that which cost him nothing**
 - 2 Samuel 24:24 (NKJV)

²⁴ Then the king said to Araunah, "No, but I will surely buy *it* from you for a price; ***nor will I offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God with that which costs me nothing.***" So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.

Examples

- **The Macedonians gave out of their deep poverty.**
 - **2 Corinthians 8:1-5 (NKJV)**
 - ¹ Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia:
 - ² that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy **and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality.**
 - ³ For I bear witness that according to *their* ability, yes, and beyond *their* ability, *they were* freely willing,
 - ⁴ imploring us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.
 - 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.

The Key

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The Key

How much should we give?

- **The Bible teaches that we should give enough that our giving is considered liberal.**
- **Romans 12:8 (NKJV)**
⁸ he who exhorts, in exhortation; **he who gives, with liberality**; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

How much should we give?

- **The Bible teaches that we should give enough that our giving reflects our prosperity.**
- **1 Corinthians 16:2 (KJV)**
 - ² Upon the first *day* of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.**

Question

**What if God would prosper us
according to what we give?**

How much should we give?

- **The Bible teaches that we should give enough so we can know what is in our hearts.**
- **Matthew 6:21 (NKJV)**
21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

How should we give?

How should we give?

➤ **Cheerfully**

➤ **2 Corinthians 9:7 (NKJV)**

⁷ *So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; **for God loves a cheerful giver.***

How should we give?

➤ **As one purposes in his heart**

➤ **2 Corinthians 9:7**

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.

How should we give?

➤ **Willingly**

➤ **2 Corinthians 8:12 (NKJV)**

¹² For if there is *first a willing mind*, it is accepted according to what one has, *and* not according to what he does not have.

How should we give?

➤ **According to Jesus' example**

➤ **2 Corinthians 8:9 (NKJV)**

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.

Why should we give?

Why should we give?

➤ **Because we are commanded by God to give**

➤ **1 Corinthians 16:2**

² Upon the first *day* of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, **as God hath prospered him**, that there be no gatherings when I come.

Why should we give?

➤ **So that we'll be blessed.**

➤ **2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (NKJV)**

⁶ But this *I say*: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

⁷ *So let* each one *give* as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

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.*

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NOTE

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Examine our Hearts

➤ **Ask:**

- **Am I giving as I have been prospered? (1 Cor. 16:1-2)**
- **What is my motivation? (2 Cor. 9:6-7)**
- **Would my giving be an example to others? (2 Cor. 8:1-5)**
- **Have I prayed about my giving? (Jas. 1:5)**

Conclusion

- **Remember: the rich young ruler was lost because he put money before God!!**