

Shalom,let us study the Word.

One thing in life we should never forget is the act of giving to God.Every one who is borne of God,whether a teacher,a prophet,a pastor among others,need to embrace the art of giving to God.Though many regard it with little care.Of course we can never give to God something of our own since everything comes from him.Yet our giving has a crucial part in the heart of the One to whom we offer our gifts.It shows a spirit of obedience,care and trust.No matter how small your gift is,he sees it in a much greater way than we couldn't think.

Suppose your child arrives home from school and brings you a gift,let's say a pen.Knowing that it is with the money you had given him before that he's bought the pen will touch your heart.You will be moved by this act.Instead of gladly receiving the gift,you will take it in a different way.As a parent,you will get to know your child more better,to love and trust him.Moreover, you will want to reward him even tenfold whatsoever he's done for you.

When we will to give to God,be it money or other gifts,he sees that as an act of love.It shows that we honor, love care about him.Have ever thought of what it is like when God feels that you love him?It sounds good and it's so rewarding.

We do not need to be reminded about giving to God. When we offer our gifts to God, we should do so willingly and with honest intent. For God does not force us to give. It is something that springs forth from within the moment one learns about the importance of doing so.

The appropriate place to offer our gifts to God is where his Word is taught. God does not keep the gifts with him in heaven. They are committed to his servants who then put it to the proper use by the help of the Holy Spirit. However, we are not the cornerstone to his ministry. Let's not think that if we do not give to him then his work will stop. God has numberless ways to make his purpose stand without our help.

Esther 4:10-14

*<sup>10</sup> Again Esther spake unto Hatach, and gave him commandment unto Mordecai;*

*<sup>11</sup> All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or women, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law of his to put him to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out*

*the golden sceptre, that he may live: but I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days.*

<sup>12</sup> *And they told to Mordecai Esther's words.*

<sup>13</sup> *Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews.*

<sup>14</sup> *For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?*

Queen Esther thought that if she remained silent, the Jews would be destroyed. But Mordecai answered and told her that even if she did not speak up for her people, God would open a way so that relief and deliverance for the Jews could arise from another place. But she and her father's family would perish. Yet when she humbled herself, God used her as his instrument for the preservation of her nation. Had Esther remained silent, God would bring salvation unto Israel in another way.

Similarly, when we humble ourselves and be willing to give to God,we become a part of him accomplishing his purpose and are involved in the furtherance of his work. Therefore, God uses us in much greater ways rather using others. Just like Mordecai told Esther, "....And who knows but that you have come to royal position at such a time as this?" On the other hand, if we are unwilling, God will use other people to do his work and bless them.

Our giving should not confine itself to words alone.

May the Lord help us to know this and put it into practice.

Maran Atha!

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