

Greetings to you in the most exalted name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome once again to the study of the Word of the Lord. We are still continuing in the series about the various rewards of God and the criteria He uses to give them. This is part 4.

4) There are rewards for those who help the poor and needy.

The Lord Jesus said these words to the rich Pharisee who had invited Him to a banquet:

Luke 14:12-15

“Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid.

But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind,

and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

*When one of those at the table with him heard this, he said to Jesus, “Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God.”**

So, if you are a holy person, saved and born again, do not forget to remember those in need and those who are helpless with the resources God has given you—because there is a great reward in heaven for that, on the day when the Lord will raise His elect to reward them.

When you give aid or host celebrations, do not only invite those who are wealthy, but seek also to include those who have nothing to offer in return. Do not only invite those who contributed to your event, but also invite those who cannot afford to contribute—because in doing so, you are storing up for yourself a good treasure in heaven.

The apostle Paul was diligent in this matter when he was instructed by the apostles who came before him. He said:

Galatians 2:9-10

“James, Cephas and John, those esteemed as pillars, gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship when they recognized the grace given to me. They agreed that we should go to the Gentiles, and they to the circumcised.

All they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I had been eager to do all along.”

You see that? Therefore, when we encounter the poor, the orphans, and those in need, we must recognize that these are opportunities for us to earn many rewards. Let us be diligent in helping them, because when we get to heaven, our wealth will be weighed based on such actions.

But if everything we received was consumed by us alone—or only shared with others who are equally able—then let us understand that we are reducing our eternal wealth.

Giving is not limited to having abundance. If you receive 100 shillings, it is enough to give 50 to the poor and use the other portion for yourself.

May the Lord help us see this clearly and begin now to remember others in need.

The Lord bless you.

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