

SERMON DATE: March 28, 2021

SERMON SERIES: Giving Back to the One Who Gave

SERMON TITLE: What Do I Have to Offer?

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

Psalm 116:12-17

What shall I render to the LORD For all His benefits toward me?

¹³ I will take up the cup of salvation, And call upon the name of the LORD.

¹⁴ I will pay my vows to the LORD Now in the presence of all His people.

¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the LORD Is the death of His saints.

¹⁶ O LORD, truly I am Your servant; I am Your servant, the son of Your maidservant; You have loosed my bonds. ¹⁷ I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving, And will call upon the name of the LORD.

SUMMARY STATEMENT

German historian Klaus Hildebrand said: “*Strong lives are motivated by dynamic purposes.*” It is not easily determined, what specifically Hildebrand had in mind when he made this declaration, but what he stated has both natural and spiritual implication. Every person who sincerely accepts Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, is empowered by the eternal power source the Holy Spirit. This empowerment enables them to live a strengthened life that can be classified as “strong”. The dynamic purpose that those lives are motivated out of gratitude to accomplish, is to live and do all for the glory of God.

INTRODUCTION

Every born-again Christian is unique, possessing a unique persona within the broad family of God which is comprised of those who are called “children of God.” This designation as children of God, means they have been empowered by the Holy Spirit. As Romans 8:16 states the Holy Spirit *bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.* We also understand from Matthew 5:16 that we are to strive for the glory of God,

SERMON NOTES

and from Acts 1:8 that we are empowered by the Holy Spirit to accomplish this great purpose. Additionally, we can draw from our teaching last week and glean from our text today, that when we recognized all the benefits God has bestowed upon us, we should respond with a motivated passion and desire to express and demonstrate our gratitude. Here we see how Hildebrand's quote has spiritual implications. As we can conclude that being born-again Christians, and therefore children of God, we have been given strong lives to live, motivated by gratitude to pursue the dynamic purposes God has enlisted and empowered us to endeavor to fulfill.

Purpose - the reason for which something is done or created, or the reason for which something exists.

POINT #1 – The Response of Gratitude

“What Shall I Render” – Looking for Opportunities

¹² What shall I render to the LORD For all His benefits toward me?

“I Will Pay My Vows” – Committed to Follow-Through

¹⁴ I will pay my vows to the LORD Now in the presence of all His people.

“I Am Your servant” – Recognizing a Responsibility

¹⁶ O LORD, truly I am Your servant; I am Your servant, the son of Your maidservant; You have loosed my bonds.

“I Will Offer to You the Sacrifice of Thanksgiving” – Willingly and Gratefully Offering

¹⁷ I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving, And will call upon the name of the LORD.

GRATITUDE VS. INGRATITUDE

Shirley Caesar – “No Charge”

NOTE #1 - Ingratitude happens when we try to list for God all the things we do or have done for Him, not recognizing the great price He paid for us through Jesus Christ.

POINT #2 – Jesus Lived in Purpose

John 9:4

“I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.”

-Follow the Leader-

Paul Lived in Purpose

2 Timothy 4:7

“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.”

-Follow me as I follow-

“My Course” – personal possessive pronoun “my”

POINT #3 – Divine Purpose - Each One Has One

1 Corinthians 12:18

But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.

“The Body”

NOTE #2 - The “Church” is not an organization, it is an organism.

1 Corinthians 12:12

For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.

- Every part of the body (the Church - every church member) has a divinely ordered part to play.

NOTE #3 - Apostle Paul believed and taught that every born-again believer has divine assignments.

Romans 12:4

For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function,

Ephesians 2:10

*For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which **God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.***

Titus 3:8

This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men.

Jesus Set the Tone

John 9:4

“I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.”

Conclusion:

The Father Gave His Best

The Son Gave His All

The Gifts Keep On Giving

What Do We Have to Give?...

Four Grateful Responses:

Looking for Opportunities - “What shall I Render” (v.12)

Committed to Follow-Through - “I Will Pay My Vows”(v.14)

Recognizing a Responsibility - “I am Your servant” (v.16)

Willingly and Gratefully Offering - “I will offer to You the Sacrifice of Thanksgiving” (v.17)

What Do You Give To The One Who Has Everything? (Psalm 24:1 – *The earth is the Lord’s*)

You offer Him YOU!

As we have surrendered our hearts and surrender our lives to God, we must also offer our time to Him.