

BY PASTOR WALE AFELUMO

GIVING AND RECEIVING

While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease - Genesis 8:22

Money represents our time and energy, a means of exchange. Therefore, parting with it for God says we love Him and value Him more than money. It is one way we express our worship to God. Many people get uptight when they hear about giving in church, they think it is for the benefit of the church; YES, but it is more for your benefit...It is a SET UP for a financial miracle! Don't say, "I can't afford to give", I say to you, "You cannot afford not to give!" Why rob yourself of the blessing of a financial harvest, because giving is one sure way of securing a colorful financial future.

It is not the desire of God to take away from you, shortchange you, or rob you. Psalm 50:12 says, If God was hungry, He would not tell you because the entire world and its fullness belong to Him. However, anytime God wants to 'bless' His people; He gives them an opportunity to give, because He needs a seed to multiply. Farmers know that to keep up a harvest in and out of season, they need to keep sowing. So, as much as possible, maintain a spirit of generosity. The bible says in Proverbs 11:25: "The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself."

Let your hearts be assured that the law of Genesis 8:22 cannot be broken. Seedtime and harvest, that is "sowing and reaping" is as unchangeable and predictable as day and night. God said this to Noah after earth's complete destruction by the flood. He was saying to him that he could start over with the seeds in his hands and create a beautiful world for himself and his family. The money 'seeds' in your hands can also recreate your financial fortune. Don't let fear stop you from giving; it is Satan's attempt to stop you from receiving a bountiful return. Remember that God sustained you in your time of lack. Therefore, the thought that you will starve if you give to God is a lie! I leave you with this short poem: "A man there was, they called him mad; the more he gave, the more he had. So, anytime God brings an opportunity for you to give, do not shrink back – IT IS A SET UP!

SCRIPTURAL REFERENCE Genesis 8:15-22

> ADDITIONAL STUDY Kings 17:8-16 Luke 6:38 (TLB)

PRAYER POINT

+ Ask God to help you discern the times He wants you to give and what to give.

+ Call in your harvest for seeds you have sown to return to you in overflowing measures today.

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