

FAITH PROMISE #4 - GIVE CHEERFULLY

II CORINTHIANS 9:1-15

Our attitude toward giving must be cheerful or with hilarity. Our willingness shows our desire to further the work of God.

I. THE BLESSINGS OF GIVING

- A. More blessed to give than receive. Acts 20:32-38
 - 1. Paul did not covet their silver or gold or apparel.
 - 2. Paul preached the Word in Ephesus for 2 years.
 - 3. And they loved him for it – wept sore (vs. 37 &38)
- B. When we give, the storehouses are filled. Malachi 3:10
 - 1. God's house has meat when we tithe.
 - 2. Give to missions so the missionary has meat.
 - 3. See spiritual application as well.
 - a. When we sell out to God, He blesses a church.
 - b. Ex. "I'm not getting much meat from the preaching."
 - c. Maybe give more of your time, talents and treasure.
 - 4. No one can out give God – There shall not be room!

II. THE CURSINGS OF SPARING

- A. Opposite of generously is sparingly. II Corinthians 9:6
 - 1. Greek word: *hil-ar-ous*. Meaning propitious or merry ("hilarious"), that is, prompt or willing: – cheerful.
 - 2. Not foot-dragging or coerced. Better to keep it!
 - 3. Not selfishly – expectant of remuneration or payback.
 - 4. For the joy of the giving itself. Hebrews 12:2
- B. A generous man will be honored. Psalms 112:1,9
 - 1. Not prosperity gospel of name it and claim it.
 - 2. Only honored when godly fear of the Lord motivates.
 - 3. Opposite also true. God will not honor a stingy man.
- C. God cannot be deceived. Proverbs 20:14
 - 1. Do we give for joy or because we want something back?
 - 2. This is a matter left between each person and God.

III. THE JOYS OF GIVING

- A. He gave us an unspeakable gift. II Corinthians 9:15
 - 1. Without forcing us to return His love.
 - 2. He gave Himself cheerfully.
- B. He gives us everything. I Chronicles 29:14

CONCLUSION: We give cheerfully to Faith Promise Missions when we seek the Salvation of lost souls above all else. We emulate Jesus who went to the cross for the joy that was set before Him.