

You Can Never Outgive God by Charles Stanley

The events of the day are based upon the World-System. The World says to prosper one must be/get into debt. God says to prosper one must give. Owe no man anything but Love.

The World-System is based upon debt. Our government (USA) has just spent a boat-load of money to buy our way to propensivity. Greece is trying socialism and it does not work. The World-System is based upon debt.

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Charles F. Stanley

Memory Verse: Luke 6:38

I. Introduction: What comes to mind when you consider your personal finances? Perhaps you think about investments or debts. You might reflect on your progress toward monetary goals. But few people think about how much more they could give away.

Why is giving so important? What we do with our wealth demonstrates in a tangible way how well we trust, love, and honor God. Christians fully committed to Him will give generously to the work of the Lord.

There is also a practical benefit to our generosity: it unleashes the Father's provision (Luke 6:38). This scriptural principle is as changeless as the law of gravity. Those who give generously can expect God's blessings in their lives and eternal rewards in heaven.

II. What does Scripture teach about our possessions?

A. God owns it all (Ps. 50:12). We are simply stewards of what He has given. The parable of the rich man is a powerful illustration of how foolish we are to think anything belongs to us (Luke 12:16-21).

B. We should give the first portion of our income to God. Malachi 3:8-12 explains the nation of Israel was cursed for their failure to tithe.

C. We are to give cheerfully. As 2 Corinthians 9:7 says, our giving should be filled with joy.

III. Why should we give?

A. To provide for His work: giving supports the work of the gospel, not only locally but also around the world.

B. To prove His faithfulness: when we are generous givers, God promises to provide for us.

C. To provide for the needs of others: we should share food and clothing with the needy but above all, we are to remember that humanity's biggest need is for the gospel.

D. **To honor God:** as we give to others, we demonstrate His kindness to the world.

IV. What is God's plan for giving to us?

A. **God's greatest blessings come to those who live obediently before Him.** In other words, disobedience has consequences, which can include financial struggles (see Hag. 1:5-7).

B. **God provides for His children.** So if Christians don't have the basic things they need, they should prayerfully evaluate their lives.

V. What promises can we claim about financial provision?

A. **Malachi 3:10:** "'Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse . . . and test Me now in this,' says the Lord of hosts, 'if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows.'"

B. **Proverbs 3:9-10:** "Honor the Lord from your wealth and from the first of all your produce; so your barns will be filled with plenty."

C. **Luke 6:38:** "Give, and it will be given to you . . . For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return."

D. **Second Corinthians 9:6:** "He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."

E. **Second Corinthians 9:7-8:** "Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that . . . you may have an abundance for every good deed."

F. **Mark 9:41:** "Whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because of your name as followers of Christ . . . he will not lose his reward."

G. **Matthew 19:29:** "Everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or farms for My name's sake, will receive many times as much, and will inherit eternal life" (see also Luke 18:29-30).

VI. Conclusion: Would you describe yourself as a cheerful and generous giver? Whether or not you would, I challenge you to ask the Lord, "How much *more* do You want me to give?" Your generosity opens the door to His abundant blessing in your life—not just financially, but in every other area too. My friend, you cannot outgive God. Be generous, and allow Him to demonstrate His amazing ability to provide.