

June 5, 2016

Topic: Perfect Giving

The Lord ministered to the people of God regarding giving, and there are three words that we must meditate on as we read this love message: patience, watchfulness and obedience. The Lord showed that although we have given in times past when the Lord called for us to give, we have not always given perfectly. An example of this would be when the Lord calls for each house ministry to give \$1000. Two people (saints) who have the means in their bank account may agree to pay the \$1000 on behalf of the ministry. The Lord receives the offering, but this is not the perfect giving that he has called for. The Lord ministered concerning this matter, and He showed that the greater the number of those in agreement, the greater number of individuals who receive the blessing. So instead of two being in agreement, the Lord would have been more pleased if ten were in agreement. By all having a hand in the giving then the blessings flow to the greater masses. Therefore, the participation is not simply by way of mathematics where it would be \$1000 divided by 10, but word from the Lord is heard, it must be submitted back unto the Lord and this is where the three words, patience, watchfulness and obedience, come into play.

When you submit that word back unto the Lord, you must now stand in the **patience** of the Lord as you wait for the clear word (how the Lord wants the word to be carried out) as it comes forth from the Father. **Watchfulness** is necessary in order for us to not miss the clear word that comes forth from the Father and not to let it slip. **Obedience** is fulfilling the specific word (plan of action) that the Lord brought forth by not deviating from the plan. The Lord ministered that obedience is always better than sacrifice, and it's not about giving until it hurts. It's about giving as the Lord directs. Again, we want to be clear that the Lord is, and has been, pleased with the giving of the body; however, now that the Lord has given us the clear (perfect) way to give, we want to walk in the higher wisdom of the Lord.

God has a principle by which He works. When building the Ark of the Covenant, for example, the Lord spoke to Moses three times to deviate not from the established plan. In another instance, God gave David step by step directions on how the temple would be built. David gave the same directions to Solomon. This is how the Christ body operates in the building work--the work must go forth according to the plan of God. We cannot get to obedience without first being watchful.

King Saul is an example of one who deviated from God's plan because of the fear in his heart. When the priest was not present to lift up an offering unto God, Saul panicked and usurped the role of the priest. We must wait in patience and be watchful for the word of God and then go forth in obedience.

People mired in religious practice often sing a song that says "You can't beat God giving, no matter how hard you try. The more you give, the more he gives to you...." This practice leads to a formulaic way of giving that does not require the person to seek the clear word of God. We

must realize it is not about the quantity of the giving but the quality of the gift. Be reminded of the scripture of the widow woman giving a penny while others gave much more. Christ Jesus showed that she gave more than any of the others because her heart was disposed to give all unto God. Accordingly, the first word we receive gives understanding to what God wants. The clear word tells us how He wants it done. Thus, the Christ has spoken to us to be patient, watchful and obedient.

Thus speaks the Christ of God to his body.