



Sheridan Hills Baptist Church
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Taught at SHBC in November 2014

‘Our Giving God’ message series notes:

Msg #1 — God’s Love Means God’s Giving

Msg #2 — Our Response to God’s Giving

Msg #3 — The Sacred 10th: God’s Design for All Time

Msg #4 — So Great A Giving God

God's Love Means God's Giving

November 9, 2014 — OUR GIVING GOD series Msg #1— Pastor Andrew Coleman

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:35

The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand.

Ephesians 5:1-2

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:25

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself up for me.

CENTRAL PREMISE:

God's love means that God eternally gives himself to others.

God can give all because he made all and owns all.

(see selected scriptures declaring God's sovereignty on the following page)

1) God is sovereign over all things— He depends on nothing.

(Soli deo gloria— glory to God alone)

Psalm 90:2; Revelation 4:11; 1 Corinthians 8:6

2) God is owner of all things— He lacks nothing.

Job 41:11; Psalm 50:10-12; Acts 17:24-25

3) God is giver of all things — He holds back nothing.

Acts 17:24-25; Romans 11:35-36; 2 Peter 1:3

2 Peter 1:3

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence.

OUR CREATOR-GOD OWNS EVERYTHING
Scriptures Revealing God's Total Sovereignty Over All Things:

Psalm 90:2

*Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.*

Revelation 4:11

*“Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created.”*

1 Corinthians 8:6

yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

Job 41:11 God responds to Job in chapters 38-41 revealing his utter sovereignty.

*Who has first given to Me, that I should repay him?
Whatever is under the whole heaven is Mine.*

Psalm 50:10-12

*10 For every beast of the forest is Mine,
the cattle on a thousand hills.
11 I know all the birds of the hills,
and all that moves in the field is Mine.*

Acts 17:24-25

24 The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, 25 nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.

Romans 11:35-36

*35 “Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?”
36 For from him and through him and to him are all things.
To him be glory forever. Amen.*

God's Loving/Giving comes from who He is.

1 John 4:7-8

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

'Love' (*agape* as opposed to *eros* or *philia*) = 'selfless love'

- **God's love is an 'others-oriented love'.**
- **God's love is a 'self-giving love'.**
- **God's love gives himself to bless others.**
- **God's love never changes.**

I. Eternity Past (before creation):

God's loving/giving nature is seen within the Trinity.

John 17:5 and 24; John 3:35 John 14:31

II. The Present Age (since creation):

God's loving/giving nature is seen in His relationship to people.

1 John 4:10; Romans 5:8; John 3:16; Galatians 2:20

III. Eternity Future (after this present age):

God's loving/giving nature is seen in His promises to come.

Isaiah 62:5; Zephaniah 3:17-18; Revelation 21:1-3, 6

My Response — Realization/Impressions/Applications:

Real loving cannot be separated from selfless giving.

Our Response to God's Giving

November 16, 2014 — OUR GIVING GOD series Msg #2 — Pastor Andrew Coleman

CENTRAL PREMISE from last week:

God eternally gives Himself to others. He is a giving God.

God's loving/giving comes from who He is.

1 John 4:8

Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

'Love' (*agape* as opposed to *eros* or *philia*) = 'selfless love'

God's love is an 'others-oriented love'.

God's love is a 'self-giving love'.

God's love gives himself to bless others.

God's love never changes.

God's loving/giving is seen in eternity past, the present and eternity future.

So how do we respond to Our Giving God?

1) Receive Him. Turn to Him in belief.

John 1:11-12

He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. 12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,

Do not reject Him. (vs 11 above)

Do not neglect Him.

Hebrews 2:1-3

1 Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. 2 For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, 3 how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation?

2) Rejoice in Him. Live for Him in gratitude.

I Chronicles 16:34-36

O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; For His lovingkindness is everlasting. 35 Then say, Save us, O God of our salvation, And gather us and deliver us from the nations, To give thanks to Your holy name, And glory in Your praise." 36 Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, From everlasting even to everlasting. Then all the people said, "Amen," and praised the LORD.

Psalm 34

3) Imitate Him. Give as He gave in gladness.

Ephesians 5:1-2

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

The KEY REALITY of EARTHLY WEALTH/MONEY:

God has given money to test and grow our faith in Him.

Pastor Adrian Rogers — Memphis, TN

"A faith that hasn't reached your wallet probably hasn't reached your heart."

1) Our giving is to be sacrificial/generous giving.

2 Samuel 24:24

However, the king [David] said to Araunah, No, but I will surely buy it from you for a price, for I will not offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God which cost me nothing. So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.

2) Our giving is to be planned/systematic/regular giving.

Genesis 14:17-20

Abraham received great blessing and immediately gave one tenth (a tithe) of his wealth back to God.

3) Our giving begins with church giving.

Malachi 3:10

10 Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

A test with GREAT REWARD : It is impossible to out give God.

GOING ALL THE WAY BACK TO ABRAHAM , ‘the Father of our Faith’:

Notice what Abraham did after he

- was lead out of the land of Ur,
- given great wealth,
- protected by God,
- successfully rescued his nephew Lot when he was abducted

Abraham’s response to all of God’s blessings on his life...

Genesis 14:17-20

17 After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King’s Valley). 18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.) 19 And he blessed him and said,

*“Blessed be Abram by God Most High,
Possessor of heaven and earth;
20 and blessed be God Most High,
who has delivered your enemies into your hand!”*

And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

In verse 20 we see that Abraham responded to God’s generosity and blessing by giving God a tenth of everything he had... ‘a tithe’ (or one tenth) was the beginning place of his giving. Though this was a free-will offering, it appears to set a precedent for Old Testament giving under the Law... which we see that Jesus clearly affirmed (Matthew 23:23-24).

It was a tangible expression of His gratitude and faith to God.

The Sacred 10th: God's Design for All Time

November 23, 2014 -- OUR GIVING GOD series Msg #3 -- Pastor Andrew Coleman

So do we really need to tithe – what about being ‘under grace’??

1) The earliest men of faith accepted the tithe as an Established Duty.

The 1st **sacrifice/offering** after creation was made by God, Himself.

Genesis 3:21 *And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skin and covered them.*

The 2nd **mention of sacrifice/offering** is that of Cain and Abel.

Genesis 4:3-5 Abel's was from the firstborn of his flock and by faith. Accepted.
Cain's was from what he had grown and not by faith. Rejected.

The 3rd **mention** is of Noah's sacrifice after the flood -- those precious few animals!

(Pagans followed! Egyptians, Babylonians, Persians, Phoenicians, Arabians, Greeks, Romans)

Then, **the Patriarchs of our faith in God** (Abraham, Isaac and Jacob) (2,200 BC)

Genesis 14:17-20 **Abraham's response after victory in rescuing Lot from abduction**

17 After his [Abram] return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). 18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.) 19 And he blessed him and said,

*“Blessed be Abram by God Most High,
Possessor of heaven and earth;
and blessed be God Most High,
who has delivered your enemies into your hand!”*

20 And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

Genesis 28:20-22 **Jacob's response after his dream**

18 So early in the morning Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. 19 He called the name of that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first. 20 Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, 21 so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God, 22 and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house. And of all that you give me I will give a full tenth to you.”

Just to be clear: The word ‘tithe’ literally means 10%.

It is proportional, sacrificial giving.

2) The Old Testament law assumes and continues the practice of tithing.

Leviticus 27:30-34

30 “Every tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the LORD’s; it is holy to the LORD. 31 If a man wishes to redeem some of his tithe, he shall add a fifth to it. 32 And every tithe of herds and flocks, every tenth animal of all that pass under the herdsman’s staff, shall be holy to the LORD. 33 One shall not differentiate between good or bad, neither shall he make a substitute for it; and if he does substitute for it, then both it and the substitute shall be holy; it shall not be redeemed.” 34 These are the commandments that the LORD commanded Moses for the people of Israel on Mount Sinai.

In fact, there were multiple tithes required by the Law leading up to 23.5%.

see Deuteronomy 14:22-29

- 1) for the worship work of Israel (first 10%)
- 2) for the social work of Israel (second tithe and third tithe every 3rd year)

Percentage giving means it’s not about ‘equal gifts’ but ‘equal sacrifice’.

3) The Clincher -- Jesus affirms the tithe as the beginning place of giving.

Matthew 23:23 Jesus rebukes heartlessness but not the Law itself

23 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. 24 You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!

Jesus upholds (and ultimately fulfills) the law of the Old Testament.

(no other Gods, no idols, profanity, Sabbath, parents, murder, adultery, stealing, lying, coveting)

As Christians living under God’s grace with His empowering Spirit in us, we should be the most committed, grateful, sacrificial, radical followers of God the world has ever known!

Instead of wondering how little we can give, we should be planning how much we can give.

Christ’s fulfillment of the Law should not be a reason to give less, but more.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 HOW MUCH DO YOU WANT TO BE BLESSED?

6 The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

Don’t give until it hurts, give until it feels good!

So Great A Giving God

November 30, 2014 — OUR GIVING GOD series Msg #4 — Pastor Andrew Coleman

Review:

Msg 1 - '*God's Love Means God's Giving*'

Central Premise: God eternally gives Himself to others.

God's loving/giving comes from who He is.
(eternity past, present, eternity future)

Msg 2 - '*Our Response to God's Giving*'

- 1) Receive Him. John 1:12
- 2) Rejoice in Him. 1 Chronicles 16:35
- 3) Imitate Him. Ephesians 5:1-2

Love like He loves, give as He gives.

Msg 3 - '*The Sacred 10th: God's Design for All Time*'

- 1) The Patriarchs (Abram, Isaac, Jacob) gave a tithe.
- 2) The Law required 2.3 tithes.
- 3) Jesus affirmed the tithe. Matt 23:23

ISAIAH chapter 55 — So Great A Giving God!

I. God gives His great invitation.

- 1 *Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.*
- 2 *Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.*
- 3 *Incline your ear, and come to me;
hear, that your soul may live;
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.*
- 4 *Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.*
- 5 *Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know,
and a nation that did not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.*

II. God gives Another Chance.

- 6 *Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;*
- 7 *let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on
him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.*
- 8 *For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.*
- 9 *For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

III. God gives His Prosperous Word.

- 10 *For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,*
- 11 *so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.*

IV. God gives His Joyful Blessing.

- 12 *For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.*
- 13 *Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.*

SO... what are your responses to GOD'S GIVING?

- 1) My faith? *Am I trusting Him in all things?*
- 2) My finances? *Do I gladly give back what He has given me?*
- 3) My future? *Have I freely given Him my future?*

Will you express gratitude? Will you express faith? Will you be careful to give?

Our God is a giving God. He calls us to be like Him.

Thus, God calls us to be a giving people.

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.