

Part 8 - The Call for a Free Will Offering – a Willing Heart

[A Cheerful Giver – Using the Gifts from the Holy Spirit]

Exodus 35

*22 And they came, both men and women, as many as **were willing hearted**, and brought bracelets, and earrings, and rings, and tablets, all jewels of gold: and every man that offered offered an offering of gold unto the LORD.*

So Israel, both men and women, brought to Moses that which they could. The gold they had were mostly from jewelry such as bracelets, earrings and rings. This certainly tells us that God does not mind us wearing jewelry, so long as it does not become an idol to us. It also tells us they still had gold even after the incident recorded in Ex 32 (making the molten calf). So they must have done a really good job spoiling the Egyptians before they left Egypt (Ex 12:36). The word ‘tablets’ is #3558 and means: *a jewel* (probably gold beads). Notice though, in this verse we’re told that offerings from both men *and* women were accepted, so long as they were *willing hearted*. It does not matter our gender (or race), God loves a cheerful giver (2 Cor 9:7). And, no matter our gender (or race) God has also given us all *gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will*. (Heb 2:4, 1 Cor 12). It is our responsibility to find them and use them to the best of our ability (Mth 25:14-30).

*4 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:
5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.
6 Having then **gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us**, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;
7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;
8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.
9 Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.*
Rom 12:4-9

Whatever gift(s) God has given us, we should do it ‘without dissimulation’, which simply means to be sincere (#505). We shouldn’t use our gifts to gain glory for *ourselves* nor for monetary gain. The book of James warns us of what comes from such things...

*1 From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even **of your lusts** that war in your members?
2 **Ye lust**, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.
3 Ye ask, and receive not, because **ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts**.
4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that **the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.**
5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?*

6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, **God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.**

7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and **purify your hearts**, ye double minded.

James 4:1-8

So again, we see that tithing is not beneficial for us *if our heart is not right with God*. And, we cannot even ask Him for any favors if our heart isn't right with God. James urges us to humble ourselves, submit to God, resist (which means to stand or oppose) the devil, draw nigh to God, cleanse our hands (works) and purify our hearts so we will not be double minded anymore. What does it mean to be double minded? It's when you still allow yourself to be controlled by the flesh (carnal) mind that we are all born with. This is the part of us (also called the heart) that we're to be working to mortify (kill) – it's the 'old man' we must strive to crucify. James is saying that if we don't sincerely try to crucify our 'old man' we end up being friends with the world, which is to be friends with the devil (Satan) himself. And then, we've made ourselves enemies with God. Remember that Rom 12:9 tells us to *abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good*. So, **in order for our tithing (gifts given to God) to be accepted by Him, our heart must be right with Him**. We cannot cleave to that which is evil – we are to abhor (hate) that which is evil and cleave to that which is good. That's why studying His Word is ever so important. So, whether we are man or woman, God wants us to serve Him with a willing heart. But we also must have a sincere heart, otherwise our gift is given in vain. Remember, God is not a 'genie in a bottle'. He does not exist to please us. We can't just 'rub' Him the 'right way' and 'poof' we get our every wish and demand. No, God made us for His pleasure (Rev 4:11) and *we exist to serve Him*. If we want His blessings (and eternal life) then we must learn to please Him.

This is why it's so wrong for Pastors, Preachers, Priests (or anyone claiming to represent Him) to beg for money. To try and coerce people (in any way, shape or form) into tithing to your ministry is *to steal from the people*; because, if people don't give from a *willing* heart they won't be blessed by God. It is the job of the Pastor, Preacher, Priest and Teacher to **teach people how to get their heart right with God** and then the people can *willingly* give from their heart, as God leads them to do. But all too often people leading the Church are so caught up in the 'ways of the world' that all they can think about is money. They are often greedy and self-serving – not serving God Almighty. Remember that 1 Tim 6:10 says: *the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows*. If any man (or woman) spends time asking for tithes, it should be a red flag to you. People talk about what is dear to their heart, as it is written: *out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh* (Matt 12:34). It's our job to discern this and only tithe to the Church that actually feeds us spiritual truth; for, to support a Church that does not teach truth (but teaches traditions of man) is akin to wishing them God speed...

10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:

11 For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.

2 John 10-11

If we wish anyone who is doing evil (such as teaching lies and claiming to represent Jesus Christ) then we are partaking (supporting) their evil deeds. Tithing to a crooked Church is truly an offense to God because it supports evil. Remember, James 4:4 warns us that: *whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.* This isn't a warning to take lightly. Simply giving money to any Church *is not a holy thing to do.* It could very well be supporting evil and this applies to any other donations you willingly give to any other organization as well. Do your due diligence to look into the organization and how they truly use the funds (as well as what their agenda is) before donating. People often are coerced into supporting things that seem like they are good on the surface but, when one simply 'follows the money', they find that these so-called charities are in fact funding quite evil initiatives. Just because you want to 'do something good' doesn't mean you should just start donating anywhere. *It's irresponsible to donate to a place* when you do not truly know how it operates and how the money is used. It's one thing when the government taxes us; that's something we have to give but to willingly donate to Churches or other places without really truly knowing what the organization is doing... is quite irresponsible and God won't bless it.

A good place to start is simply by studying our Father's Word (the Bible) each and every day to first learn the difference between right and wrong. And then ask God to show you what He wants you do to with any money you feel should be given to Him. Perhaps it is anonymously helping out a neighbor by giving them food or something; but whatever you do, make sure you do not do it to get anything in return – not even a thanks. True tithing to God should be done willingly and *expecting nothing in return.* But never forget, the most precious (and important) gift you can give them is spiritual food and water. Jesus explains how He feels about this in a parable...

31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

42 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:

43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger; or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?

45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.

46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Matt 25:31-46

The ‘food and water’ in this parable is often thought of as being physical, but Jesus quite clearly told us that the most important food and water is the Living Bread and Water (John 6:48, 51, 63, 7:38-39). Therefore, you must first *study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth* (2 Tim 2:15) so that you have that spiritual Bread of Life and Living Water to give to others. Why is this not taught more? Well, because people who claim to represent God are often greedy and would rather you tithe financially so they can line their own pockets. But why do people agree to do this shallow (fleshly) form of tithing (financially) without also (or foremost) *spiritually* tithing to God by sharing the true Gospel of Jesus Christ? People often look to tithe financially because *it is much easier than learning to tithe spiritually*. Again, how do you tithe spiritually? You find the gift(s) God has given you and learn to use them the best you possibly can. You take any opportunity to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, no matter how small the seed of truth is.

15 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,

16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

17 Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.

Eph 5:15-17

5 Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.

6 Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

Col 4:5-6

Continue to work hard to change your own heart, mind, words and actions so that the truth radiates from you, drawing others to Jesus Christ (not you). And then, when the opportunity arises, plant that spiritual truth in the mind of the that lost soul (Mth 13:3-23). These are spiritual tithes that are well pleasing to God. And, while there are times He does want us to physically support His work, more often than not the true tithing He wants from us is *spiritual* in nature. So, *be cautious not to go throwing your money around just to ease your conscience; it very well*

could be funding evil. If you really truly want to do something for Jesus, then learn to serve Him sincerely by *using the gifts He has given you*. There is no ‘quick fix’ when it comes to tithing to God. We can’t think we can buy God by throwing money at Him and acting like that makes us righteous. Remember the parable of the poor widow?

41 And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much.

42 And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing.

*43 And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, **That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury:***

44 For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.

Mark 12:41-44

Jesus makes it clear that, it’s not how much we give to God, but how *willingly* we give to Him, that really matters. The poor woman gave all she had to God but God counted that as more than all that the rich man had given. Would not have God been more pleased with the rich man if he had helped this poor widow out? After all, the law does call for such a thing...

*7 If there be among you a poor man of one of thy brethren within any of thy gates in thy land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, **thou shalt not harden thine heart, nor shut thine hand from thy poor brother:***

8 But thou shalt open thine hand wide unto him, and shalt surely lend him sufficient for his need, in that which he wanteth.

9 Beware that there be not a thought in thy wicked heart, saying, The seventh year, the year of release, is at hand; and thine eye be evil against thy poor brother, and thou givest him nought; and he cry unto the LORD against thee, and it be sin unto thee.

*10 **Thou shalt surely give him, and thine heart shall not be grieved when thou givest unto him: because that for this thing the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thy works, and in all that thou puttest thine hand unto.***

*11 For the poor shall never cease out of the land: therefore I command thee, saying, **Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land.***

Deut 15:7-11

Further, Jesus pointed out the hypocrisy of the Pharisees and Scribes (the religious men of the day) in the following account...

1 Then came together unto him the Pharisees, and certain of the scribes, which came from Jerusalem.

2 And when they saw some of his disciples eat bread with defiled, that is to say, with unwashen, hands, they found fault.

3 For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, except they wash their hands oft, eat not, holding the tradition of the elders.

4 And when they come from the market, except they wash, they eat not. And many other things there be, which they have received to hold, as the washing of cups, and pots, brasen vessels, and of tables.

5 Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashen hands?

6 He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. [Isa 29:13]

7 Howbeit **in vain do they worship me**, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

8 For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do.

9 And he said unto them, **Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.**

10 For Moses said, Honour thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death:

11 But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is **Corban**, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; he shall be free.

12 And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother;

13 Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.

Mark 7:1-13

The word ‘corban’ here is #2878 and it means: *a votive offering and the offering; a consecrated present* (to the Temple fund); by extension (the latter term) *the Treasury itself*, i.e. *the room where the contribution boxes stood*. So, the crooked (and greedy) religious leaders of Jesus’ day taught people that it was ok to neglect helping their aging parents so long as the people were giving the money to *their* Church. Not only is honoring your parents the Fifth Commandment but, as Jesus points out, the Law also tells us that *every one that curseth his father or his mother shall be surely put to death: he hath cursed his father or his mother; his blood shall be upon him* (Lev 20:9). Yes, cursing ones parents was worthy of the death penalty – capital punishment! To curse, in this case, means: *to be* (causatively, *make*) *light*, literally (swift, small, sharp, etc.) or figuratively (*easy, trifling, vile*, etc.) (#7043). To neglect one’s parents when they are aging, is dishonoring them; it’s making light of them. Yet, how many people do this today? And do you ever hear Pastors getting up on stage and telling people to make sure their parents are taken care of (referring especially to elderly parents who truly need love and support from their children as they age) before you even think of tithing to them? Of course, not because most of them are greedy. Some Pastors even prey on elderly people who are living on a fixed income. Now, as back then, it angers God immensely. Of a truth *there is no new thing under the sun* (Eccl 1:9).

So, in these Scriptures we can also see into our Heavenly Father’s feelings. It’s more pleasing to Him that we help out those that are truly in need, especially our parents as they are aging, then to tithe to a physical Church. However, as always, we must make sure we are using spiritual discernment when helping anyone [learn more about this in the special study: **Isn’t It Okay to Help; What’s the Difference** - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/292>].

Consider now: what are people most in need of these days? Is it food or water?

*11 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, **but of hearing the words of the LORD:***

12 And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, and shall not find it.

13 In that day shall the fair virgins and young men faint for thirst.

Amos 8:11-13

You can look all over the nation for a Church that actually teaches God's Word but they are very hard to find. You'll likely not find one near you. There are some, but they are rare indeed. So, although there are many Churches in our land, the sad truth is that, most people in our nation are spiritually starving. [**Church is Not Christianity** <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/212>]. Yes truly, because most Churches do not teach God's Word (they teach traditions of man instead) there are many spiritually malnourished people in our nation (yea all over the world). So, the famine of our day is indeed terrible but it's not for physical food and water – it is for *truth*.

*47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me **hath everlasting life.***

*48 **I am that bread of life.***

49 Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead.

*50 **This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die.***

*51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: **if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever:** and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.*

John 6:47-51

It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

John 6:63

37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.

38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

*39 (But this spake **he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.**)*

John 7:37-39

Indeed, the food and water people need the most today is truth (the Word of God) and they need God's Holy Spirit (the Living Water) to help them understand it. Jesus told us that *whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward* (Matt 10:37-42). How do you spiritually give someone a 'cup of cold water'? You plant a seed of truth; it may be a small one but when

the opportunity comes up, make sure to plant it! Share the truth, as the opportunity comes. Share the truth as the Holy Spirit guides you to. This is spiritually feeding God's children. Remember what Jesus said?

14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

*19 Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: **but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.***

20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Matt 5:14-20

Those who do and teach God's Word (His Commandments) are those who will be called the 'greatest' in the Kingdom of Heaven (Jesus' Kingdom). But if you are too scared to use your talent (as Mth 25 parable of the talents speaks of) you will be the 'least' in the kingdom. Sharing the truth (spiritual food and water) IS what makes you a light for our Heavenly Father. Notably, feeding spiritually truth to your personal enemies (those people who you really do not like you or vice versa) is exactly how you heap coals onto their head, as it is written...

21 If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink:

22 For thou shalt heap coals of fire upon his head, and the LORD shall reward thee.

Prov 25:21-22

19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

Rom 12:19-21

If your personal enemy is truly in need of physical food and water, your giving it to them will be quite humbling to them, which is why it says that you'll heap coals of fire upon his head. The burn of shame when a person's pride is hurt, is indeed like a fire. But, spiritually feeding your enemy also brings forth a fire inside of them because God's Word is convicting and that burns inside. So, like the Bible advises, we shouldn't swarm in our anger and devise vengeance to

those who do us wrong. We should strive to obey God and treat them according to the Law of God no matter our personal feelings for someone. If someone you don't like truly needs help, then help them. It will likely be humiliatingly humbling for them. But don't gloat! Stay humble yourself. And if someone you don't like need spiritual truth (if an opportunity comes up), do not refrain from planting a seed just because you don't like that person. They need truth and it's your job to share it *regardless of your personal feelings*.

So, spreading the truth (the Gospel of Jesus Christ) is truly how we tithe to Him. It's the essence of what He wants. All the money in the world means nothing to Him when our heart is far from Him (Isa 29:13). That's why we must have willing hearts when we tithe, no matter what the tithe is (spiritual or physical). And when we share the truth (in God's Word) we are indeed helping to build the true Tabernacle, which is the Body of Christ (1 Cor 12:27, Eph 4:12).

Exodus 35

23 And every man, with whom was found blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair, and red skins of rams, and badgers' skins, brought them.

24 Every one that did offer an offering of silver and brass brought the LORD's offering: and every man, with whom was found shittim wood for any work of the service, brought it.

Because they didn't have any stores to go to, nor the internet to buy from in those days, how did the people find the items that were needed to build the Tabernacle? They started by looking in their own homes to see if they found anything that was needed. And indeed, many of these things were found. Remember, God had told them to 'spoil' the Egyptians of their goods before they left (12:36); apparently, they did a pretty good job of it. What this teaches us is that, we too must look inside our home (our soul) to see what we can give to God to help build His Tabernacle. 1 Cor 11:28 tells us: *let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup*. So, before we take Communion, we must make sure we're not doing it just to socialize or to get a free meal. Our heart must be sincere. 2 Cor 13:5 also tells us to *examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?* We all must look inside our own heart to 'prove' what our intentions really are. We all must learn to face our self, which is not easy to do but is vital in our spiritual development [Face to Face <https://t.me/BibleStudyAudios/73>]. Ps 26:2 even asks God: *Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; try my reins and my heart*. So, it's ok to ask God's Holy Spirit to help you see your sin. After all, it's hard to see our own faults. As David prayed: *Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults* (Ps 19:12). So, we too (like the Israelites of old) need to look inside our own heart and mind and clean house. But then, ***we should also look to see what gifts God has given us to use in building His spiritual Tabernacle, the Body of Christ***. In other words, ask yourself: how can you help draw God's children back to Him? The Holy Spirit will surely help you see how you can help built Him a spiritual Tabernacle.

Exodus 35

25 And all the women that were wise hearted did spin with their hands, and brought that which they had spun, both of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, and of fine linen.

26 And all the women whose heart stirred them up in wisdom spun goats' hair.

Here we see a great example of people using their talents to help build God's tabernacle. Not every woman was skilled in spinning goat's hair, yarn and fine linen. They are different materials and require knowledge and skill of how to deal with them. But those women who knew how to do so, did work, which gives us an excellent example of how we need to examine our own self to see how we can help restore faith and trust in the hearts of our Heavenly Father's children for Him. Note again how these verses speak of those 'whose hearts stirred them up'. This is what should happen when we look inside our self! This is why the apostles *said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?* (Luke 24:32). This was regarding when a few of them saw Jesus after His resurrection and He talked with them to open up the Scriptures so they could understand them. This is what stirred up their heart so much it made it 'burn'. We should study God's Word and allow it to do the same to our heart and mind *so it will reveal to us how we are to serve Him*. Remember, we're not all the same. We can't expect others to be like us or vice versa. We are to conform to the image of God, not to the image of the world (Rom 8:29). Rom 12:2 tells us to *be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God*.

Exodus 35

27 And the rulers brought onyx stones, and stones to be set, for the ephod, and for the breastplate;

28 And spice, and oil for the light, and for the anointing oil, and for the sweet incense.

*29 The children of Israel brought a **willing offering** unto the LORD, every man **and woman**, **whose heart made them willing to bring for all manner of work**, which the LORD had commanded to be made by the hand of Moses.*

We're not given specifics on just how the 'perfect' stones for the Breastplate and Ephod were found but we are told that the rulers brought them so perhaps they had to work together to find them or something. At any rate, Israel indeed found everything that was needed for the Tabernacle and again we see it stressed that they brought a *willing* offering to YHVH. And their willingness *came from their heart*.

5 Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ;

*6 Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, **doing the will of God from the heart**;*

Eph 6:5-6

The word 'servants' is not speaking only to those who are enslaved physically; it also means those who are employees as well as those who simply serve others in other ways. Such as a mother serving her family in the many ways she does. Or a father serving his family in the many ways he does. Or the children serving their parents the way they ought to. Or the Pastor serving

the congregation with spiritual food and water. Whatever gift you have, you should learn to use it to serve others; for in doing so, you're truly serving our Heavenly Father. After all, it is written...

20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

21 And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

1 John 4:20-21

If we cannot learn to serve others (who we can see), how can we truly think we're serving God (who we cannot see)? Jesus Christ (God Himself) was (and still is) a servant to all...

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

*7 But made himself of no reputation, and **took upon him the form of a servant**, and was made in the likeness of men:*

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Phil 2:6-8

Jesus set forth the example also in John 13:3-17 when He washed the disciple's feet...

3 Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God;

4 He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself.

5 After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.

6 Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet?

7 Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.

*8 Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, ***If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.****

9 Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head.

10 Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all.

11 For he knew who should betray him; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean.

12 So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you?

13 Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am.

*14 If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ***ye also ought to wash one another's feet.****

*15 **For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.***

16 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.

*17 If ye know these things, ***happy are ye if ye do them.****

Matt 20:25-28

This is why Jesus said...

25 But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them.

*26 But it shall not be so among you: but **whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister;***

*27 And whosoever will be chief among you, **let him be your servant:***

*28 **Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.***

Matt 20:25-28

We'll pick this up in part 8...

AMEN.