The "School of Generosity" Series

Week Three: The Promise of Generosity

第三週: 慷慨的應許

A. Did You Know That Christ Followers Will Be Rewarded in Heaven?

你知道基督的追隨者會在天堂得到獎賞嗎?

"By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building upon it. But each one should build with care. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved – even though only as one escaping through the flames." (1 Corinthians 3:10-15)

我照神所給我的恩,好像一個聰明的工頭,立好了根基,有別人在上面建造;只是各人要謹慎怎樣上建造。因為那已經立好的根基就是耶穌基督,此外沒有人能立別的根基。若有人用金、銀、寶石、草木、禾楷在這根基上建造,各人的工程必然顯露,因為那日子要將它表明出來,有火發現;這火要試驗個人的工程怎樣。人在那根基上所建造的工程若存得住,他就要得賞賜。人的工程若被燒了,他就要受虧損,自己卻要得救,乃像從火裡經過的一樣。

(哥林多前書 3:10-15)

We are saved by placing our faith in what Jesus did. We are rewarded for what we do, after placing our faith in what Jesus did.
 我們因相信耶穌所成就的而得救。相信耶穌的作為後,我們會按我們所做的得到獎賞。

"Do not store up treasures for yourselves on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up treasures for yourselves in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal." (Matthew 6:19-20) 不要為自己積攢財寶在地上;地上有蟲子咬,能銹壞,也有賊挖窟窿來偷。只要積攢財寶在天上;天上沒有蟲子咬,不能銹壞,也沒有賊挖窟窿來偷。(馬太福音 6:19-20)

"Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

In this way they will lay up treasures for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age,
so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life." (1 Timothy 6:18-19)

又要囑咐他們行善,在好事上富足,甘心施捨,樂意供給人,為自家積成美好的根基,預備將來, 叫他們持定那真正的生命。(提摩太前書 6:18-19)

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each one of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. As it is written: 'They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever.' Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.

You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." (vv. 6-11)

『少種的少收,多種的多收』,這話是真的。各人要隨本心所酌定的,不要作難,不要勉強,因為捐得樂意的人,是神所喜愛的。神能將各樣的恩惠多多地加給你們,使你們凡事常常充足,能多行各樣善事。如經上所記:他施捨錢財,賙濟貧窮;他的仁義存到永遠。那賜種給撒種的,賜糧給人吃的,必多多加給你們種地的種子,又增添你們仁義的果子;叫你們凡事富足,可以多多施捨,就藉著我們使 感謝歸於神。(哥林多後書 9:6-11)

2. If you are giving to get more, you won't get more. If you are giving to give more, "You will be enriched in every way."

若你施予是為了得到更多,你將不會得到更多。若你為了施予而付出更多,你會在各方面變得豐富。

"A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD... Every tithe of the herd and flock – every tenth animal that passes under the shepherd's rod – will be holy to the Lord." (Leviticus 27:30,32)

地上所有的,無論是地上的種子是樹上的果子,十分之一是耶和華的,是歸給耶和華為聖的。凡牛群, 羊群中,一切從杖下經過的,每第十隻要歸給耶和華為聖。(利未記 27:30,32)

"I the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed.

Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees
and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you,' says the LORD Almighty.
But you ask, 'How are we to return?' 'Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me.'
But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?' 'In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse –
your whole nation – because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse,
that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,' says the LORD Almighty,
'see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing
that there will not be room enough to store it.'" (Malachi 3:6-10)

因我耶和華是不改變的,所以你們雅各之子沒有滅亡。萬軍之耶和華說:從你們列祖的日子以來,你們常常偏離我的典章而不遵守。現在你們要轉向我,我就轉向你們。你們卻問說:我們如何才是轉向呢?人豈可奪取神之物呢?你們竟奪取我的供物。你們卻說:我們在何事上奪取你的供物呢?就是你們在當納的十分之一和當獻的供物上。因你們通國之人都奪取我的供物,咒詛就臨到你們身上。萬軍之耶和華說:你們要將當納的十分之一全然送進倉庫,使我家有糧,以此試試我,是否為你們敞開天上的窗戶,傾福與你們,甚至無處可容。(瑪拉基書 3:6-10)

3. Whether or not you strictly adhere to the 10% rule, I would suggest to you that a New Testament believer *should not* be giving less than an Old Testament believer.

無論你是否嚴格遵守"十一奉獻"的規條,我給你的建議是:新約信徒的奉獻不應該少於舊約信徒。

Today's "Big Idea"...今日主旨..

What you give away in this life determines what you keep in the life to come.

你今生所施予的 决定你將來生命所存留的。