

Scriptures on Generosity

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*Scripture is from the NIV unless otherwise noted

Old Testament

Genesis 28:20-22

Jacob made a vow (to God), "If God will be with me and will watch over me...all that You give me I will give You a tenth."

Exodus 35:5

From what you have, take an offering for the LORD. Everyone who is willing is to bring to the LORD an offering..."

Exodus 35:21

Everyone who was willing and whose heart moved him came and brought an offering to the LORD for the work..."

Exodus 35:29

All the men and women who were willing brought to the LORD free will offerings for all the work the LORD...had commanded them to do.

Exodus 36:3-6

The people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning. So all the skilled craftsmen who were doing all the work on the sanctuary left their work and said to Moses, "The people are bringing more than enough for doing the work the LORD commanded to be done." Then Moses gave an order..."No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the sanctuary." And so the people were restrained from bringing more.

Leviticus 27:30

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.

Leviticus 27:32

The entire tithe of the herd and flock-- every tenth animal that passes under the shepherd's rod-- will be holy to the LORD.

Deuteronomy 8:18

Remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.

Deuteronomy 12:6-7

Bring your offerings and sacrifices, your tithes and special gifts, what you have vowed to give and your freewill offerings...because the Lord your God has blessed you.

Deuteronomy 14:22-23

Be sure to set aside a tenth...so that you may learn to revere the LORD your God always.

Deuteronomy 14:27-29

Do not neglect the Levites (ministers) living in your towns...so that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hands.

Deuteronomy 16:16

No man should appear before the LORD empty-handed:

Deuteronomy 16:17

Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the LORD your God has blessed you.

1 Samuel 30:24

The share of the man who stayed with the supplies is to be the same as that of him who went down to the battle. All will share alike."

1 Kings 17:13, 8-16

Elijah said to (the starving widow woman), "Don't be afraid...first make a small cake of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. For this is what the LORD says: 'The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry'..."She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family.

1 Chronicles 29:2-3

(King David said to God's people) "With all my resources I have provided for the temple of my God—gold...silver...bronze...iron...wood...onyx...turquoise...all kinds of fine stone and marble-- all of these in large quantities. In my devotion to the temple of my God I now give my personal treasures of gold and silver for the temple of my God, over and above everything I have provided.

1 Chronicles 29:9

The people rejoiced at the willing response of their leaders, for they had given freely and wholeheartedly to the LORD. David the king also rejoiced greatly.

1 Chronicles 29:11-12

Everything in heaven and earth is Yours, O LORD. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.

1 Chronicles 29:13-14

(David prayed to God) "God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name. "But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this?"

Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand."

1 Chronicles 29:16

LORD our God, as for all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple for your Holy Name, it comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you.

1 Chronicles 29:17

(David prayed to God) "I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these (offerings) I have given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you."

2 Chronicles 31:5

The Israelites generously gave the first fruits of their grain, new wine, oil and honey and all that the fields produced. They brought a great amount, a tithe of everything.

2 Chronicles 31:12

God's people faithfully brought in the contributions, tithes and dedicated gifts.

Ezra 2:68,69

Families gave freewill offerings toward the rebuilding of the house of God. According to their ability they gave to the treasury for this work.

Nehemiah 12:43-44

(God's people) offered great sacrifices, rejoicing because God had given them great joy. The women and children also rejoiced. The sound of rejoicing...could be heard far away. Men were appointed to be in charge of the storerooms for the contributions, first fruits and tithes.

Proverbs 3:9-10

Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

Psalms 50:10

Every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills...the creatures of the field are mine... the world is mine, and all that is in it.

Proverbs 11:24-25

One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.

Proverbs 22:9

A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.

Proverbs 28:22

A stingy man is eager to get rich and is unaware that poverty awaits him.

Proverbs 28:27

He who gives to the poor will lack nothing, but he who closes his eyes to them receives

many curses.

Haggai 1:4

"Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while (God's) house remains a ruin?"

Malachi 1:6-7

"A son honors his father, a servant honors his master. I am your Father and Master, yet you don't honor me...you despise my name." "Who? Us?" you say. "When did we ever despise your name?" "When you offer polluted sacrifices on my altar." "Polluted sacrifices? When have we ever done a thing like that?" "Every time you say, 'Don't bother bringing anything very valuable to offer to God!'"

Malachi 1:8-10

(God's ministers tell people) 'Lame animals are all right to offer on the altar of the Lord-- yes, even the sick and the blind ones.' And you claim this isn't evil? Try it on your governor sometime-- give him gifts like that-- and see how pleased he is!... I have no pleasure in you," says the Lord Almighty, "and I will not accept your offerings."

Malachi 1:14

"Cursed is that man who promises a fine ram from his flock and substitutes a sick one to sacrifice to God. For I am a Great King," says the Lord Almighty, "and my name is to be mightily revered among the people of the world."

Malachi 3:7-9

Return to me, and I will return to you," says the LORD Almighty. "But you ask, 'How are we to return?' "Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse-- the whole nation of you-- because you are robbing me.

Malachi 3:10

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.

Malachi 3:11,12

"(God says to those who bring him tithes and offerings) I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit," says the LORD Almighty. "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land."

New Testament

Matthew 6:19-21

(Jesus said) "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21

Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:25

(Jesus said) "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes?"

Matthew 6:26

Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"

Matthew 6:27,31

Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.

Matthew 6:33,34

Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things (food, clothing, drink) will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 12:41-44

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. (42) But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. (43) Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. (44) They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything-- all she had to live on."

Matthew 25:35-40

I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?'..."The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

Mark 12:41

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury.

Luke 6:38 TLB

If you give, you will get! Your gift will return to you in full and overflowing measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, and running over. Whatever measure you use to give-- large or small-- will be used to measure what is given back to you.

Luke 6:38

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Luke 18:22-25

When Jesus heard this, he said to the rich young ruler, "You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was a man of great wealth. Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

Acts 2:44-45

All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need.

Acts 4:34-35

There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.

Acts 20:35

(Remember Jesus' words when he said) "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Romans 12:13

Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

1 Corinthians 16:2

On every Lord's Day each of you should put aside something from what you have earned during the week, and use it for this offering. The amount depends on how much the Lord has helped you earn.

2 Corinthians 8:2,3

Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints.

2 Corinthians 8:5

They gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will.

2 Corinthians 8:7

Just as you excel in everything-- in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us-- see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

2 Corinthians 8:9

You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:10,11

Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means.

2 Corinthians 8:12

If the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have.

2 Corinthians 9:5

I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to visit you in advance and finish the arrangements for the generous gift you had promised. Then it will be ready as a generous gift, not as one grudgingly given.

2 Corinthians 9:6

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

2 Corinthians 9:7

Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:8

God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

2 Corinthians 9:10

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.

2 Corinthians 9:11

You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

2 Corinthians 9:12

This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.

2 Corinthians 9:13

Men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.

Galatians 6:6 TLB

Those who are taught the Word of God should help their teachers by paying them.

1 Timothy 6:10

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

1 Timothy 6:17-19

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 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 treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

Hebrews 13:16

Do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

1 John 3:17

If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?