

2018 Part 3: "The Big Deal!"

Living to Give... Realizing that God has bigger plans for our prosperity than we have imagined! To share His divine nature, exercising the power to be His imitators! **2Pet1.4 J1.12** Realizing that God has a prescription for our prosperity; the tithe and offering! Won't have a future fortune w/o being able to honor Him with the tenth! **Mal 3.9** Realizing that our prosperity is best used for futurity, not our best life here! If "this night your soul was asked for," would you be ready to stand? **Lk 12.20**

Realizing the hold of the spirit of this age on the income producers... **Acts 4.32** Anxiously storing up for the end... and then the "end" was removed/resurrection! Producers here, producing for there, storing up in the land of the living! Realizing the freedom and power to give without fear of diminishing... Restored/secured, they could now hear and respond to the cries of the needy! One heart, one soul, where other's needs become "my opportunity to confer..."

To show love in the most sincere ways and let it take you to "impossible" places!

Living to Give... Missions: Mike and Stacy! Missions: Little Eden Orphanage! Foursquare District Churches! Foursquare Missions Press! Habitat style house builds! Trailers, portables, temporary bldgs! Local properties for ministry! How far do we want to go? *Bring all the tithes into the storehouse? Establish the Storehouse principle? Joseph's storehouse/Joseph-driven church?*

The Original Storehouse...

"One of the Pharaoh's" has a double dream... **Genesis 41.1-7** Seven healthy cows come up out of the river to graze in the fields... followed by seven mangy cows that rise and eat them! Seven full ears of corn on one stalk and seven shriveled ears come and devour them! Pharaoh wakes up wondering what it means and calls his counselors to interpret, and none could! **v8** Then he hears about Joseph the "dream interpreter!" **v9-13**

Joseph: "I got nuthin,' but God will give you an answer!" **Genesis 41.16,25-31** "The seven good cows are seven good years and the seven evil cows are seven hard years of famine!" Same thing with the corn! "The seven years of famine will wipe out the memory of seven years of plenty!" **v30** "You dreamed it twice because God is saying, this is going to happen!" **v32** "Find someone to oversee a storehouse and take up a fifth of the produce in the good years so the people survive!" **33-36**

And Pharaoh and his court all thought it was a brilliant idea! **Genesis 41.37-45** "And who better to appoint than the one to whom God has given the plan!" Joseph stored the "incoming" in the good years before the storm! **v48-57** When the people called for help he opened "everything that had anything;" the storehouses and sold them their food!

- **It would have led to taking more than they needed... (no caution)**
- **It would have caused them to become insensitive to the others needs...**
- **An entitlement would have brought intense "self" focus!**

>>> when the money ran out, he took up their livestock... then they gave their lands and pledged themselves to Pharaoh... And Joseph gave them the means to build a new life, new way! **Genesis 47.14-26**

Three Storehouse Lessons... God's Storehouse is not a socialistic, communistic, entitlement program!

They didn't just get something out because they put something in! That's a bank, ATM, retirement, slots! **Without God's plan, planning to fail!** This Pharaoh was the only one who came through the

famine and whose kingdom continued! *“When God speaks...”* **God’s plan was to build a people wired and welded together a new way!** This was a whole new idea and system and it preserved life for multitudes!

The Big Deal... The time came when these people had no doubts that they were living and thriving because of God’s plan! All the pretentiousness was gone! “We will not hide it from you... we will die without help...” **Gen 47.18** “God’s words were true, the famine has prevailed!” **v20** “You have saved our lives; let us find grace in your sight and we will be Pharaoh’s servants!” **v25** **God had a bigger plan for His plan than they could see... but were benefitting!**

Whether by legislation with a premium (OT), or, a revelation that makes us willing to live to give (NT)... Our Father wants us to be different people with an intentional system of loving and caring!

For us, as the family of Life, that means the tithe and offering... It means that we willingly, lovingly, engage the system that provides for us and others!

Malachi 3.10-12 *Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house. Test me 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.* I will rebuke the devourer who steals what you plant, your fruit will come to full harvest and all nations will call you blessed for your bounty will be attractive in their eyes...”

Our Storehouse Plan...

- ...To continue striving for group faithfulness with the tithe and offering!
- ...Continue developing our property to house the growing body, from it...
- ...Continue caring for those who work for us, and the workplace, from it!
- ...Continue setting aside a gleaners fund for simple, true, benevolence from it!
- ...Continue church planting, missions, community out-reaching, supporting other ministries from it!
- ...And look for ways to engage people to give and receive a new beginning!

Because, “we want to remember the words of the Lord Jesus how He said, “IT IS more blessed to give than to receive!” Acts 20.35

It’s being like God, His divine nature to love and give!

It’s a *blessing* to receive a helping hand now and then, to get a surprise, a gift, a free dinner...

But it’s being *blessed, prospered*, to give, to be thoroughly furnished for every good work, that God desires for us!