

1. God sees our **attitude** and **action** of giving in relation to the Church when no one else does.
2. The amount you give to the Church is not the issue. The **attitude** of your heart in relation to giving is the issue.
3. There are some who give a lot that amounts to **little**, there are some who give a little that amounts to **much**. Our attitude behind giving to the Kingdom agenda of God within the Church reflects if God has our hearts or if the world has our hearts.
4. When we give whatever we give in proceeds to the Kingdom agenda of God within the Church, the giving reveals if our life is tied to our **livelihood**, **creature comforts**, and **personal agendas**, or if our life is tied to **God** and His **agenda**.
5. Who or what you truly live for, who or what you truly depend on, and who or what you truly value impacts what you **give** in proceeds, as well as what you **withhold** in proceeds to the Kingdom agenda of God within the church.
6. Giving to the Kingdom agenda of God within the Church should reflect a trust in the **Lord**, not a trust in our **resources**.
7. Only you and God know if you give a lot that amounts to **little** or if you give a little that amounts to **much**. Some people give less when they have the ability to give more. Some people give up to their ability and beyond. Giving is an issue of your heart, not an issue of the amount.
8. The question you have to answer is, what does your giving in proceeds to the Kingdom agenda of God within the Church reveal about **you**?
9. We must ask ourselves: Are we **utilizing** and **distributing** the proceeds we have according to God's Kingdom agenda or our own agenda?

"An acute danger of our incredible wealth today is that we can frequently give an amount that 'sounds' generous, but in fact costs us very little..... God can produce blessing out of any amount we invest in His Kingdom. But He also evaluates the amount we choose to invest in our own kingdoms. It is not the amount we give that gains favor in God's eyes, all of our possessions are truly God's to begin with! So what does it mean to give generously? Giving generously is to give in such a way that God is glorified. God is glorified by our giving when we recognize His sovereignty, are grateful for His provision, and are joyful in our opportunity to serve Him. Stewardship requires

that we actively engage in the utilization and distribution of God's resources to accomplish His objectives. God desires for us to enjoy His blessings, but to do so through the lens of His eternal Kingdom, not our own temporary one. We must be thoughtful about where we choose to store our treasures. We must be active, thoughtful, strategic stewards of God's possessions." (God And Money by John Cortines and Gregory Baumer, pp.47-52)