

# The Church

## Bibing - Part 2 - The Importance of Bibing in The Scriptures

### My Divine Mentors

Irrespective of whatever avenue of truth we consider, Divine Persons are always the supreme example, and this is especially true when the subject is “giving”. While there have been many men and women who have given to charity, thankfully we are not restricted in looking at mere humans as our mentors, but to divine persons, God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

#### 1) God is our Mentor for He gives:

- a) Aesthetically in creation (Gen. 1:31)
- b) Spiritually, in giving us “all spiritual blessings” (Eph. 1:3)
- c) Physically, for “in Him we live, and move, and have our being” (Acts 17:28)
- d) Intellectually, for “The Lord giveth wisdom: out of His mouth cometh knowledge and understanding” (Prov. 2:6)
- e) Purposefully, “For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate . . . He also glorified” (Rom. 8:28-30)
- f) Materially, for “It is He that giveth thee power to get wealth” (Deut. 8:18)
- g) Freely, “How shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?” (Rom. 8:32)
- h) Liberally, “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that given to all men liberally” (Jam. 1:5)
- i) Richly, “Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, not trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy” (1 Tim. 6:17)
- j) Abundant life, “I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly” (Jn. 10:10)
- k) Abundant mercy, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to this abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Pet. 1:3)
- l) Riches of His goodness, “Or despiseth Thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?” (Rom. 2:4)
- m) Riches of His grace, “In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace” (Eph. 1:7)
- n) Riches of Christ, “Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ” (Eph. 3:8)
- o) Riches of His glory, “That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man” (Eph. 3:16)
- p) Exceedingly abundantly, “Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us” (Eph. 3:20)

#### 2) Christ is our Mentor

- a) “The Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me” (Gal. 2:20)
- b) “Walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour” (Eph. 5:2)
- c) “I give unto them eternal life” (Jn. 10:28)

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### 3) The Holy Spirit as our Mentor

#### a) The Holy Spirit gives:

- i) Conviction as He strives with man, "And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgement" (Jn. 16:8)
- ii) Understanding of the things given us by God, "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God" (1 Cor. 2:12)
- iii) Assurance that we are Son's of God by His witness within us, "The spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God" (Rom. 8:16)
- iv) Knowledge by His teaching, "But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in Him" (1 Jn. 2:27)
- v) Sets us apart by His sanctification, "Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ" (1 Pet. 1:2)

### Giving From The Heart Results In:

- 1) Glory for God: "Whilst by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men" (2 Cor. 9:13)
- 2) It results in equality: "For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not. For I mean not that other men be eased, and ye burdened: But by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may be a supply for their want, that their abundance may also may be a supply for your want: that there may be equality". (2 Cor. 8:12-14)
- 3) It expresses a brotherhood: "Whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth" (1 Jn. 3:17, 18; Acts 11:29-30; cp Isa. 58:7)
- 4) The Lord being well pleased: "To do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased" (Heb. 13:16; Phil. 4:18)
- 5) Relief brought to needy saints. When the saints at Corinth sent fellowship to those at Jerusalem Paul wrote: "For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God" (2 Cor. 9:12)
- 6) It stimulates others to like behavior: "Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia; How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty bounded unto the riches of the liberality. And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God. Therefore as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also". (2 Cor. 8:1, 2, 7)
- 7) It results in fulness of returns: "He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." (2 Cor. 9:6-10; Prov. 11:24; Lk. 19:24-26)
- 8) It reaps eternal benefits: "Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account".

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## Giving - Part 2 - The Importance of Giving in The Scriptures

(Phil. 4:17; Matt. 6:19-20)

### Why We Should Give Sacrificially?

- 1) Because He gave sacrificially for us by coming to die for our sins and made us spiritually rich. (2 Cor. 8:9)
- 2) It is a manifestation of how true our evaluations are, and to what is our treasure. (Lk. 12:3-34)
- 3) Because everything we have belongs to God (1 Chron. 29:14) therefore, we should make it freely available to Him as Peter did with his boat (Lk. 5:3-7), and this resulted in worship (Lk. 5:8).
- 4) Because to withhold that which we can honestly give (cp man in Old Testament gives a sheep when God has given cows and bulls) in offerings is called by Him “robbing God” (Mal. 3:8).
- 5) Because as we give, so God will give in the same degree to us. (Lk. 6:38; 2 Cor. 9:6)
- 6) Because Jesus said: “It is more blessed to give than to receive”. (Acts 20:35)
- 7) Because after we have given liberally, the Lord promises to supply all our needs. (Phil. 4:18-19)
- 8) Because giving is an act of worship to God. (Matt. 26:7-11)
- 9) Because the Lord noticed giving (Lk. 21:1-4) and it received His commendation.

### All Belongs To God

- 1) “Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine.” (1 Chron. 29:11).
- 2) Again in his prayer he said: “For all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee” (1 Chron. 29:14)

We have a God who is the supreme Giver. He has reserves that are abundant and a generous spirit that is beyond comprehension. God is not stingy, for in love He gave His only Begotten Son, and His great purpose is the glory of Christ. No matter what circumstances we find ourselves in, no need is too big for Him. Giving does not impoverish God, and withholding does not enrich Him. This all begs the question, “With mentors like this, how can I do else but give?”

The Holy Spirit asks a searching question: “What hast thou that thou didst not receive?” (1 Cor. 4:7).  
It is: “The Living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy” (1 Tim. 6:17).

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**May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.  
John 16:13**

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