



Celebrating The Power of Ninety

Scripture: II Corinthians 9:7

Introduction: The tithe is a debt we owe God. When we tithe we acknowledge that everything belongs to God. God allows us to keep the ninety percent but requires that we be good stewards of the ninety percent.

The Power of Ninety is God's promised blessing to the person who honors Him by paying their tithe. It is impossible to calculate the Power of Ninety when the Power of Ten has been placed into action. The Power of Ten and the Power of Ninety represents God's financial plan that is **guaranteed** to work. Tithing is the **gateway** to the promised blessings. A person who does not pay tithes will not have the right to ask God to supply their needs. That person has decided that God's financial plan is not a good one. God's response to that prayer would be, "why ask for my help. You must think you have a better plan since you are not a tither."

A good steward does not horde the 90 % but looks for ways to give. Giving is a Biblical principle and an expression of what can happen through the power of the 90 percent that we manage. Let's explore this principle.

The word give, given, giver, givest, giveth, and giving is used over 600 times in the Bible. The text expresses God's feelings about a giver: "God loveth a cheerful giver." Actually the word "cheerful" means "hilarious" –very merry. This scripture not only supports the Biblical concept of giving, but also it tells us what the attitude of the giver should be.

I. God Gave:

A. Old Testament Concept of God Giving

1. The creation story is an account of God's gift to man.
2. The giving of the "promise land" to Abraham's seed is an account of God's gift.
3. God restoring Israel to the promise land is an account of God's gift.
4. The constant reassuring by God of the coming Messiah was a gift.

B. The New Testament Concept of God Giving

1. John 3:16
 - a. God gave because of His love.
 - b. God gave that which was dear to Him
 - c. God gave, not one of many, but His "only Son."
2. God gave power to His followers – Acts 1:8; 2:1-4
3. God gave strength to the church to be over comers.
4. God gave the promise of complete victory to the saints.

II. Following God's example of Giving:

- A. We give Him our life
- B. We give Him the first fruits (tithe)
- C. We give Him our talents

Conclusion: A person must first receive before he can give. God has given freely to us. It is our privilege and responsibility to give to Him our all. As we freely give, we find out that we cannot out give God. He will always give us more (the 90%) than we can give away. So, let's celebrate the power that God gives us through the management of the 90% by giving to the harvest instead of hoarding for our self.