

The Giving Nature of God

I am meditating this morning. To me, that means I am trying to *fill in the blanks* to understand what the Lord is saying or has said. My focus this morning is on a verse Sandra Martin presented in her teaching Wednesday evening. The scripture passage from the NKJV:

For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. (Matthew 13:12).

It seems there is a “blank” here to be filled in. Did you ever ask yourself, “Has what”? There are probably a lot of possibilities that would fit appropriately here, but I believe the Holy Spirit was speaking to me as to what to consider. I don’t want to add to the scriptures; we are warned not to, but I think it is reasonable to consider what this might be referring to.

Our minds can’t really comprehend how a person *can have* and *cannot have* something at the same time, though we may try. It is not possible to solve an unequal “equation,” so perhaps there are two “blanks” to be filled here. Anyway, I’m not getting far in trying to explain, but I think one possibility that doesn’t distort the name or the nature of God would be like this:

For whoever has the ability to give, to him will more (both spiritual and physical) be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have (the ability to give), even what he has (both spiritual and physical) will be taken away from him.

Since God is infinite in everything good and admirable, I’m sure there would be other equally beneficial words that could be plugged in here. That may be the reason Jesus chose to say it the way He has, so we would really think about it what it could be.

None who know the Lord at all could deny the giving nature of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and the heart behind it all. In correcting the Corinthian church Paul made the point, “What do you have that you did not receive?” We all should be able to answer this humbly, “Nothing.” (See 1 Corinthians 4)

A river or stream flows. Flowing water will not stagnate. So will we receive and give, or will we hoard? Jesus said, “**The one who believes in me, as the Scripture has said, will have streams of living water flow from deep within him.**” (John 7:38 CSB) Everything received needs to be given and shared or used, with the Holy Spirit’s leading, from the heart in one way or another. When we give to the thirsty, Jesus said we are giving it to him. When we give to the poor, a Proverb says we are lending to God. We are instructed to store up our treasures in heaven where they are secure. We are not to be in company of the stingy person who feeds us grudgingly. (Proverbs 23:6-8) And What happens to the stingy persons or the hoarders, the ones whose heart is not in their giving, or they don’t give at all?



A stingy man hastens after wealth

and does not know that poverty will come upon him. (Proverbs 28:22 ESV)

He (*Jesus*) then told them, “Watch out and be on guard against all greed, because one’s life is not in the abundance of his possessions.”

Then he told them a parable: “A rich man’s land was very productive. He thought to himself, ‘What should I do, since I don’t have anywhere to store my crops? I will do this,’ he said. ‘I’ll tear down my barns and build bigger ones and store all my grain and my goods there. Then I’ll say to myself, “You have many goods stored up for many years. Take it easy; eat, drink, and enjoy yourself.”’

“But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is demanded of you. And the things you have prepared—whose will they be?’

“That’s how it is with the one who stores up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.” (Luke 12:16-21 CSB)

If we were to try to enumerate all the gifts the Father has given us in the Son, it would be a never-ending, ongoing list. The blessing, favor, and grace He bestows on us daily is ongoing. All that He shows us in His word which would include the benefits we are to remember in Psalm 103, The protections, provision and authority we are given in Psalm 91, His name and a place in His family, the Gifts of the Spirit as Well as His fruits, all that He gives us to build up and benefit the body, the brothers and sisters, our physical families, the things we have received in our mortal lives, etc. A book could be written on His gifts to mankind, but it would never be complete; and then, to top it all, we can’t even imagine what He has in store for us in heaven.

But as it is written:

“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,

Nor have entered into the heart of man

The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”

(1 Corinthians 2:9 NKJV)

Even though, now, the Spirit reveals these, little by little, to us.

Jesus said, **“Everything that the Father has is Mine. That is what I meant when I said that He [the Spirit] will take the things that are Mine and will reveal (declare, disclose, transmit) it to you. I like the way the Amplified Bible, Classic Edition translates this, as it shows how the Spirit reveals and gives to us what the Father and Son have.**

The opening verse in this article is repeated in Matthew 25:29 at the end of the Parable of the Talents; but here it is in reference to the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven:

And the disciples came and said to Him, “Why do You speak to them in parables?”

He answered and said to them, “Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. Therefore I speak to

them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. (Matthew 13:10-13 NKJV)

To my surprise, I find that the Amplified Bible adds in its brackets to Matthew 25:29 a similar interpretation to what the Holy Spirit was showing me this morning about *the ability to give* being appropriate to “fill in those blanks.” I include it here:

“For to everyone who has [and values his blessings and gifts from God, and has used them wisely], **more will be given, and** [he will be richly supplied so that] **he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have** [because he has ignored or disregarded his blessings and gifts from God], **even what he does have will be taken away.**

This interpretation includes the words *ignored* and *disregarded*. How could we not at least be thankful and praiseful for all He has bestowed? How can we not see that He is worth it all!

Another thing the Holy Spirit brought to my mind this morning as I began to write is the song by William McDowell, *Withholding Nothing*, that we have heard and sung at NUMA. Some of the words of the song follow:

I surrender all to You
Everything I give to You
Withholding nothing
Withholding nothing

I give You all of me

King Jesus
My Savior
Forever

I give You all of me
Withholding nothing

“All of me” is so little to give to such a Lord, God, Father, King, Savior—Forever. Worship Him!