

**SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY #33:  
Pneumatology, Part 11, The Gifts of the Spirit, Part 9: The Gift of Giving  
Rm. 12:6-8  
Grace Community Church  
Kingston, Tennessee  
Wednesday, October 2, 2019**

**1. TEXT: Romans 12:6-8, (6) Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; (7) or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; (8) he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.**

**2. INTRODUCTION:**

**3. THERE IS A SPIRITUAL GIFT OF GIVING**

a. In the context of our text (talking about giving), Paul is talking about is **SPIRITUAL GIFTS** (see v. 6).

b. V. 6, we are not to allow our gifts to lie dormant. we are to use them.

**4. THE SPIRITUAL GIFT OF GIVING DOES NOT EXCUSE FROM GIVING THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE THE SPIRITUAL GIFT OF GIVING**

a. Believers who do not have a particular spiritual gift are not exempt from doing those things which that gift especially enables some believers to do better than others, if that thing is commanded elsewhere in Scripture.

b. EX: There is a spiritual gift of evangelism.

i. Ephesians 4:11, “And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers ....”

ii. There are believers who are especially endowed by the Spirit of God to evangelize.

1. EX: In Acts 21:8, Phillip is called an **EVANGELIST**.

c. Scripture clearly teaches that all believers are commanded of God to share the Gospel with those around them.

i. Matthew 28:19-20, (19) “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (20) teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

ii. Acts 1:8, “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

- iii. So, even though they may not have the spiritual gift of evangelism, all believers are expected to share the Gospel.
- d. Likewise, just because there is a spiritual gift of giving does not exempt from giving those of us who do not have that gift. All believers are command to give to the Lord's work and for the benevolence of others.
- e. Some believers think that the tithe was part of the Law and that those under grace do not have an obligation to tithe.
  - i. Tithing WAS taught in the Law, but it preceded the Law.
    - 1. Gen. 14:20, (of Melchizedek), "And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand.' And he gave him a tithe of all."
    - 2. Gen 28:22, (of Jacob), "And this stone which I have set as a pillar shall be God's house, and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You."
  - ii. The Law of Moses gave us the heart of God about tithing.
- f. Have you ever noticed the challenge that God gave us in Mal. 3:10?
  - i. Mal. 3:10, "Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And TRY Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it."
    - 1. The Hebrew word translated as TRY, means, "examine, scrutinize, test, prove." <sup>1</sup>
    - 2. CONTEXT of Mal. 3:10: Malachi 3:8-10, (8) "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. (9) You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation. (10) Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.

## 5. WHAT IS THE SPIRITUAL GIFT OF GIVING?

- a. In Rm. 12:8 Paul says that the spiritual gift of giving involves LIBERALITY (NKJV). The Greek word translated as LIBERALITY comes from a word root that literally means, "without folds." <sup>2</sup>
- b. We are not to give to be seen.

<sup>1</sup> From *Brown-Driver-Briggs-Gesenius Lexicon*. ([www.biblestudytools.com](http://www.biblestudytools.com))

<sup>2</sup> *Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*, ἀπλοτης.

- i. Matthew 6:2-3, (2) “Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. (3) “But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing ...”
- c. 2 Cor. 9:7, “So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not GRUDGINGLY or of NECESSITY; for God loves a cheerful giver.”

- i. GRUDGINGLY

- 1. The Greek word translated as GRUDGINGLY means, “sorrow, pain, grief, annoyance, affliction”<sup>3</sup>
- 2. Jn. 16:21 [of a woman giving birth], “A woman, when she is in labor, has sorrow [same Gk. word] because her hour has come; but as soon as she has given birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world.”

- ii. NECESSITY

- 1. The Greek word which is translated as NECESSITY means, “necessity, imposed either by the circumstances, or by law of duty regarding to one’s advantage, custom, argument”<sup>4</sup>

- 2. CHEERFUL

- a. The Greek word translated as CHEERFUL is the word *hilaros*. (Gk. ἡλᾰρος)

## 6. THE SPIRIT OF THE NEEDY

- a. In NT days, believers sold all their possessions and brought the money from the sale to the church so that the church could have a benevolence fund and minister to the needs of its membership.
  - i. Acts 2:44-45, (44) Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, (45) and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.
- b. In 2 Thes. 3:10, Paul gives some advice about benevolence.
  - i. 2 Thessalonians 3:10, “For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.”
  - ii. The Lord doesn’t expect us to give to everyone who has his hand out.

<sup>3</sup> *Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*, λυπη.

<sup>4</sup> *Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*, αναγκη

iii. You might ask, “How do I know if this person or that person who asks me for money is legitimately in need, or is a professional beggar?”

1. If you know that person, then you probably have a pretty good idea about why they are asking for money.
2. But, for those people you don’t know, a good rule of thumb is to help them and leave the issue with the Lord.
  - a. You can also tell the recipient of your generosity, “I’m doing this in the name of the Lord.”

## 7. SCRIPTURE GIVES ADDITIONAL WAYS WE CAN GIVE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OTHERS

### a. YOU CAN GIVE MATERIAL THINGS

- i. Luke 3:11, “He answered and said to them, “He who has two tunics, let him give to him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise.”

### b. YOU CAN GIVE YOURSELF

- i. Acts 3:6, “Then Peter said, ‘Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.’”

## 8. BUT, A PERSON WITH THE SPIRITUAL GIFT OF GIVING IS ALWAYS GIVING

### a. Sometimes those with the gift of giving give extravagantly.

- i. EX: Barnabas (Acts 9)
- ii. EX: seminary friends’ dad
- iii. EX: R. G. LeTourneau

### b. BUT GIVING DOESN’T REQUIRE EXTRAVAGANCE (EX: cup of cold water, Mt. 10:42)