

Giving God The Best Gifts

TEXT: Genesis 28:10-22 **SERMON BY:** Ray Reynolds (12.18.11 - AM)

Introduction: This is the season for giving and for showing our love through gifts, food, and fellowship. Most people think that the gift "getting" is the most important part of this season. We often forget that this should be a time of reflection, praise, and thanksgiving for all our tremendous blessings. Let's consider Jacob's story and answer some questions together. . . .

Discussion:

I. Why Should We Give to God?

- A. We should give because the Scriptures teach us to give.
Genesis 4:2-10, 4:4-7, Psalms 24:1, Matthew 5:45, 6:25-33, 22:37, Mark 12:41-44, Luke 6:38, John 3:16, 14:17, Romans 8:9, I Corinthians 8:3, 16:1-4, II Corinthians 3:17, 8:1-5, 9:7, I Peter 2:9
- B. We should give because the Lord has accepted us.
I Peter 2:9, John 3:16, John 14:17, Romans 8:9, II Corinthians 3:17
- C. We should give because the Lord has provided for us.
Matthew 6:25-33, 5:45, I John 3:1-10, Matthew 6:9
- D. We should give because the Lord has established our faith.
John 3:16, Psalms 24:1, Mark 12:30, I Corinthians 8:3



II. What Should We Give to God?

- A. We should give God something of great value.
John 3:16, Mark 12:30, II Samuel 24:15-25, Matthew 6:33
- B. We should give God ourselves first.
I Corinthians 3:16-17, 6:19-20, II Corinthians 6:16, I Peter 1:17-19, Galatians 5:23, Revelation 1:5
- C. We should give God our talents.
Matthew 25, Luke 10:30-32, I Corinthians 12:13-27, Ephesians 4:11-16
- D. We should give God our time.
Ephesians 5:16-17, Hebrews 1:2, James 4:14, Romans 1:14-16, I Corinthians 4:1-2, Philippians 2:5-8, I Peter 2:21-25



III. How Should We Give to God?

- A. We should give to God with the right heart.
I Corinthians 8:3, 16:1-4, II Corinthians 3:17, 8:1-5, 9:7, Matthew 5:23-24, I Corinthians 11:17-22
- B. We should give to God with the right motives.
Acts 5:1-10, Luke 18:18-25, Matthew 6:33
- C. We should give to God at the right time.
Exodus 22:29-30, Proverbs 27:1, James 1:9-11, James 1:17-18, Matthew 8:1
- D. We should give to God expecting the right results.
Acts 20:35, Matthew 6:19-20, I Chronicles 29:1-22, Acts 2:43-47, 4:32-35, James 4:10, Luke 6:38



IV. Where Should We Give to God?

- A. We should give to a world in need.
Psalms 139:7-10, Ephesians 4:5, Matthew 5:7
- B. We should give to the Lord's church.
I Corinthians 16:1-4, Acts 20:7, II Corinthians 9:1-7, 8:10-15
- C. We should give to the Lord's children.
I Corinthians 16:1-4, Acts 6:1-7, I Timothy 5:3-16, James 1:27, I Timothy 5:17-18, Galatians 6:10
- D. We should give to our family.
I Timothy 5:8, Mark 7:11, Ephesians 6:1-4, Colossians 3:18-21



Conclusion: Everybody likes receiving gifts. As we reflect on the story of Jacob, we see that he was thankful for what he received, so he gave something back to God (v.22). Give to others freely. Give God the best gifts. Are you ready to test your faith? (WORD OF THE DAY = GIVE)