Church With A Future – Part 1

Tony Mauck · 2 Corinthians 8:1–12

INTRODUCTION

- Tithing is nowhere mentioned in the New Testament as an obligation for Christians.
- If we get right what Paul is saying in 2 Corinthians chapter 8 and 2 Corinthians chapter 9, I affirm to you that you will be looking at a congregation, a church that has a future.
- What kind of people are we going to move from this building to that location?

1 Giving Is a Joyful Response to God

Matthew 23:23; 2 Corinthians 9:7

- Everything that we give to God must emanate from a joyful heart.
- By legislating a tenth, 10%, a tenth of all. It could very easily be reduced to an exacting obligation.
- But he says, You neglect the weightier matters of the law. Faithfulness. Mercy. And justice.
- It had become exacting obligation rather than a joyful response to God.
- That's the basis of New Testament giving. God loves a cheerful giver, a joyful response to God.
- Let our response be joyful. Let our worship be joyful.

2 More About an Attitude Than an Act

Mark 12:41–44; 2 Corinthians 8:1–5; 2 Corinthians 8:12

- Before we ever start talking about how much materially we should give, we've first got some inward work to do.
- But she gave all that she had to live on. You see, it was the attitude.
- The grace of God which has been given in the churches of Macedonia, that in a great ordeal of affliction, their abundance of joy.
- They first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God.
- If the readiness is present, it is acceptable according to what a man has, not according to what he does not have.
- It's not about the income figure beside your name. It's about the readiness of your heart.

THE CHALLENGE

So if you're subject in any way to his call to come and to be saved, to put on Christ, won't you respond with that ready heart while this time and opportunity allows?

MY NOTES