Title: Honour's reward II

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Honour principle

1 Samuel 2:30 (NKJV) But now the LORD says: '... for those who honor Me <u>I will honor</u>, and those who despise Me shall be <u>lightly esteemed</u>.

• God also has a love language or honour language. We need to study the scriptures to determine what communicates to God that we honour Him.

John 13:20 (NKJV) ²⁰ Most assuredly, I say to you, he who receives (honours) whomever I send receives (honours) Me; and he who receives (honours) Me receives (honours) Him who sent Me."

God is honoured when we honour those whom He sends to us.

Proverbs 3:5 (NKJV) ⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart, <u>and lean not</u> on your own understanding;

Honour the Lord – with our finances

Proverbs 3:9–10 (NKJV) ⁹ Honor the LORD with your possessions, and with the <u>firstfruits of all</u> your increase; ¹⁰ So your barns will be <u>filled with plenty</u>, and your vats <u>will overflow with new wine</u>.

- Finances? Over 2000 scriptures in the bible about stewardship and finances.
- The church: I will build My church.

Double honour

1 Timothy 5:17–18 (ESV) ¹⁷ Let the elders who rule well be considered <u>worthy of double honor</u>, especially those who labour in preaching and teaching. ¹⁸ For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain," and, "The laborer deserves his wages."

- **Double honour.** Only place in the bible where it speaks of giving double honour to somebody. To elders, leaders in the church, who are faithful in the ministry of the Word.
- Honour starts in the heart. We can often see where somebody's heart is at. Our finances will go where our heart is at. If we honour God and His cause in the earth? We will financially invest in what God is doing. What is He doing? He is doing church. He is raising up churches and ministries all over the world to do His will.

Open heavens / Overflow of New wine / True riches

Malachi 3:8–10 (NKJV) ⁸ "Will a man rob God? <u>Yet you have robbed Me!</u> But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' <u>In tithes and offerings</u>. ⁹ You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, even this whole nation. ¹⁰ Bring <u>all the tithes</u> into <u>the storehouse</u>, that there may be food in My house, and <u>try Me now in this</u>," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not <u>open for you the windows of heaven</u> and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.

- Rob God? How? When we don't honour Him with our tithes and offerings.
- **Tithes?** That is to go to the storehouse. That is the place where we are fed spiritually. That is the local church, where God has planted us.
- Offerings? Above and beyond the 10% to give to the cause of Christ. Ministries or people God lays on our heart to give to.
- Open the windows of heaven pour out blessing upon us. Not merely financial blessing, it is a part of it, but much more than that.
- There is a connection between extravagant giving and an "open heavens"

Proverbs 3:9–10 (NKJV) ⁹ Honor the LORD with your possessions, and with the <u>firstfruits of all</u> your increase; ¹⁰ So your barns will be <u>filled with plenty</u>, and your vats <u>will overflow with new wine</u>.

- Possessions? Is our offerings. Firstfruits of all your increase? Is our tithes
- Barns will be filled with plenty points to financial provision.
- Vats overflow with new wine: This speaks of an overflow of the presence of God.

Luke 16:10–13 (NKJV) ¹⁰ He who is <u>faithful in what is least</u> is faithful also <u>in much</u>; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much. ¹¹ Therefore if <u>you have not</u> been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust <u>the true riches</u>?

- Finances = the least.
- The true riches. How we manage finances determines if we qualify to steward the true riches. The presence of God.
- True riches = determined by our stewardship of the unrighteous mammon or money. Prove our faithfulness in giving according to God's leading will determine if God can trust us with the fullness of His presence.

Abounding in grace – extravagant giving

2 Corinthians 8:7 (NKJV) ⁷ But as <u>you abound in everything</u>—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us—<u>see that you abound in this grace also</u>.

- God wants us to abound in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in diligence, in love and in giving. It is part of the grace of God. God empowers us to give extravagantly.
- "See that you abound"... make sure. Commit yourself to this. It is important.

1 Samuel 2:30 (NKJV) But now the LORD says: '... for those who honour Me <u>I will honour</u>, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed.

^{*}Purpose in your heart this day to honour God in this area. Ask Him to lead you in your giving.