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FOUNDATION CORNERSTONE

FCS1-4-24: Giving to God - Alms



Alms: (Greek 1654 – *Acts 10:2*) eleemosune el-eh-ay-mos-oo'-nay from 1656; compassionateness, i.e. (as exercised towards the poor) beneficence, or (concretely) a benefaction:--alms(-deeds).

Compassion: (Greek 4697 – as used in *Matthew 9:36*) splagchnizomai splangkhnid'-zom-ahee middle voice from 4698; to have the bowels yearn, i.e. (figuratively) feel sympathy, to pity:--have (be moved with) compassion.

The giving of Alms is different and apart from the giving of tithes. This giving is a sacrifice based on compassion and a tender kindness. It is recognizing a need and having the ability to bless those less fortunate that are not able to meet their needs themselves.

Acts 10:1-2 There was a certain man in Cæsarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian *band*, 2 A devout *man*, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway.

1 John 3:17-18 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of *compassion* from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? 18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

As in any giving, a person should not give alms to be seen of men that they may appear to be righteous. God will see through any selfish intent and every giver will be blessed as God sees it.

Matthew 6:1-4 Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. 2 Therefore when thou doest *thine* alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 3 But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: 4 That *thine* alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.

A compassionate person will see the needs of others and not overlook them; it will be within their spiritual nature to meet the needs of others, and God will bless.

Matthew 25:34-40 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. 37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed *thee*? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? 38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed *thee*? 39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? 40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done *it* unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done *it* unto me.

Luke 10:30-37 And Jesus answering said, A certain *man* went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded *him*, and departed, leaving *him* half dead. 31 And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. 32 And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on *him*, and passed by on the other side. 33 But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on *him*, 34 And went



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to *him*, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. 35 And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave *them* to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. 36 Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? 37 And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.

The giving of Alms is the compassionate blessing of those who are not able to obtain for themselves; this giving to the needs of others less fortunate, is indeed giving to God in the form of alms.



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Question 1

As described in Acts 10:1-2, Cornelius showed very little compassion for others.

True

False

True/False

Question 2

As described in 1 John 3:17-18, the writer exhorted the believers to not love in word, neither in tongue but in _____ and in _____.

Fill in blanks

Question 3

As described in Matthew 6:1-4, we should sound an alert before we do alms so that we may be seen by others.

True

False

True/False

Question 4

As described in Matthew 25:34-40, God is well pleased when:

We seek after recognition of others concerning our giving.

I was a stranger and you took me in.

I was in prison and you came unto me.

I was thirsty, and you gave me drink.

Multiple choice (Multiple answers)

Question 5

As described in Luke 10:30-37, the Samaritan showed compassion for the man by:

Helping pay his way.

Bringing him to an inn, and taking care of him.

Ignored him like the priest and Levite.

Bound up his wounds.

Multiple choice (Multiple answers)



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