

Give Because We Are Rich 1 Timothy 6:17-19

We are rich! Of course, we normally don't think of ourselves as rich because we measure our wealth only in comparison to people who have more than we have. But compared to the rest of the world, we are rich, both materially and spiritually. And because we are rich, God will hold us responsible.

Are you rich?

Why should we become generous and joyful givers?

Reason 1: Giving is an act of worship to our worthy God (Exodus 35-36).

Reason 2: Giving to God's purposes is an investment in eternity.

Reason 3: Giving is the proper response to God's generosity.

Give because you are rich!

We are materially rich

If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content. But those who want to get rich fall into temptation.

1 Timothy 6:8-9a

Rich: To have more than you need for food, clothing, and shelter.

Worldwide median household income: \$10,000/year (\$3,000 per capita)

If your annual income exceeds \$35,000, you are in the top 1% worldwide.

We are not better than others because we are wealthy. Nor are we wealthy because we are better than others.

But you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth.

Deuteronomy 8:18

For who regards you as superior? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?

1 Corinthians 4:7

We are spiritually rich

The same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him.

Romans 10:12b

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us.

Ephesians 1:7-8

We are responsible

Why do we have riches?

- To enjoy God's kindness

God...richly supplies us with all things to enjoy.

1 Timothy 6:17

Every good thing and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights.

James 1:17

- To reflect God's generosity

Instruct [the rich] to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share.

1 Timothy 6:18

- To proclaim God's salvation

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now.

Philippians 1:3-5

Are we using our riches to reflect God's values?