

## Biblical Foundations

*I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens, for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird in the mountains, and the insects in the fields are mine. If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it.*

—Psalm 50:9–12 NIV

### Does God need our money?

Have you ever received correspondence from a ministry desperately pleading for support? They may have described an emergency situation and said things like, “If you don’t send us a generous gift today, we may have to close our doors!” They seemed to be operating out of a sense of fear and desperation. Their message may have even implied that God needs your money.

Is that true? Does God need our money to accomplish His purposes? No funds were raised when God fed Elijah as he fled from Ahab, nor when He provided oil and flour to the widow of Zarephath and her family throughout the long drought. No one wrote a check to help God feed and clothe the Israelites for forty years in the wilderness, nor was a collection taken to enable Jesus to feed a crowd of over 5,000 with five loaves of bread and two fish.

It’s true. Ministries and other nonprofits generally need money to operate. But our faith is in Jehovah Jireh—Creator God and Great Provider. Ultimately, every resource and supply comes from Him. (See James 1:17.) So long as our ministry is doing God’s work in God’s way, God will supply the need. That means we can operate out of faith, not fear.



*God’s work done God’s way will never lack God’s supply.* —J. Hudson Taylor, founder of the China Inland Mission

So why give? If God doesn’t need our money, why should we release any of it to support God’s work? The answer is simple. We give, not because we have to give, but because we get to give. We give out of love—love for God, and love for those whose lives are being touched.

God could do the work all by Himself. But He often accomplishes His purposes through people like you and me. He gives us the opportunity to participate with Him in the amazing work He is doing. So instead of a duty, giving becomes a privilege.

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