



Biblical Foundations

God is Generous

He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?

—Romans 8:32 (NASB 1995)

God is our perfect, loving heavenly Father. He has given us life, takes care of our needs, and provides us with every good thing for our benefit and ultimate joy. In order to demonstrate His immense love for us, He made a sacrifice that we may never fully comprehend. He gave us His most precious treasure—Jesus Christ—allowing Him to die so that you and I might have life that is infinite in both duration and quality.

The story of the prodigal son perfectly illustrates the Father's generosity:

So he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet; and bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found." And they began to celebrate (Lk 15:20-24).

God loves us, not because we deserve His kindness or did anything to merit His favor. He loved us even while we were His enemies. Romans 5:8 (NASB) reminds us, "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Not only did God give us His prize possession, He lavishes His love on us and smothers us with such a bounty of goodness and grace that His generosity cannot be measured.

Because our heavenly Father is generous toward us, we should be generous toward Him. Not because we have to. Not so that we might receive something in return. We should be generous toward God simply because He is worthy of our love.

We love Him because He first loved us (1 Jn 4:19 NKJV).

Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9:7 (NASB) that "God loves a cheerful giver." That is because, when we give to God, we are demonstrating that which He has demonstrated to us in His giving. We are showing Him that we love Him.