

## True Worshipers are True Givers

*“18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.”  
(1 John 3:18 KJV)*

Love is not only an emotion but it is an action. When someone wants to show his love to someone else he would show this love by actions and not only by words. For example if a man showed his interest as God led him for a girl he should show that with a clear plan for marriage and family life. If he showed his interest in her only by promises that he would never fulfill then that is not a true love of God. **And this is also what the Word of God teaches us; when we say we love we should show our love with actions and in truth.**

God showed His true love to us when He sent His One and only Son Jesus Christ, *“16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. 17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.” (John 3:16-17 KJV)* True love is in giving. God gave us eternal life when He gave us Jesus Christ, who died for us on the cross and rose from the dead on the third day to give eternal life to those who believe in Him and follow Him. Then we who believe in Jesus as in *1 John 4:19*, *“We love him, because he first loved us.”* And the true love of God is when we learn to give without limit, without regret, and not to give up.

In this message we will study some of the examples from the Bible about people who showed their true love to God in actions and in truth; they truly worshipped Him in Spirit and truth.

1) *“1 And he looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasury. 2 And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites. 3 And he said, Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all: 4 For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had.” (Luke 21:1-4 KJV)* This widow had lost her husband but she had put her trust and faith in God. She came to the temple to worship God and she presented to Him her gift. Yes, it is two very small coins, but that was all what she had to live on. **God wants us to trust Him like this woman who trusted the Lord and showed Him honor by giving Him all what she had to live on.** She was confident that the source of her life is God and He will supply her and furnish her with all her needs. **It is the time for you to give to God as He asked you to do trusting Him that He will provide you and supply all your needs.**

2) *“1 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, 2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. 3 When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. 5 And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, 6 And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. 7 Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go*

*and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. 9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. 11 And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh.” (Matthew 2:1-11 KJV)* Those were the wise men from the east that came to Jerusalem asking about Jesus who had been born as King of the Jews; they said that they saw His star in the east and they came to worship Him. So they came to worship the Lord from far place. They suffered the long journey and the hardship of travel. They faced the threats of Herod who was searching to kill Jesus, but they endured because they wanted to worship the Lord. Truly they found Him and they bowed down and worshipped Him. Not only that but they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold and of frankincense and myrrh. Their worship would not be complete without giving part of their treasures to the Lord. They worshipped Him and they showed their true love to Him by giving Him their time, efforts, lives and their treasures. **Are we ready to give all the above to God like those wise men? It is a time for you now to be wise and start to worship God and to serve Him like one of the wise men on the earth and be a true giver to Him by giving Him your heart, your life, your future, your plans, your time, your body's talents and your material resources.**

3) *“1 And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. 2 And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. 3 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him. 4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off. 5 And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you. 6 And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together. 7 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering? 8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together. 9 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood. 10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. 11 And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. 12 And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me. 13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son. 14 And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen. 15 And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, 16 And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: 17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying*

*I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; 18 And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.” (Genesis 22:1-18 KJV)* Abraham did not withhold his son when the Lord asked him to offer him to Him. **God wants us to give to Him all what He asked us to give and not to withhold anything from Him.** Abraham was old in age, above one hundred years when God requested him to offer his son Isaac, but he was willing not only to offer his son and even to travel three days journey, to prepare the things that he needed to carry and to bring with him two servants to aid him on the way and to reach precisely that particular place that God asked him to go to in order to worship Him and to offer Him his son Isaac as a burnt offering. **True worshippers are not only true givers but they made themselves ready to give what is due to God.** Here Abraham when God told him, his mind was ready to obey God and to do and to give him what he had asked him to give. Abraham also had made his wife ready to obey God, for we never heard that Sarah objected or stopped Abraham from offering Isaac. Abraham also had made his son Isaac ready to obey what God had asked him to do for we saw that when Abraham bound his son on the wood and took the knife to slay him that he did not object nor run away. So not only Abraham was willing to give but as well as his wife and his son were trained to give to God what He was asking from them to give. **So we can understand now in order for us to be true givers we need not only to be ready to give but also to prepare the immediate people who are with us to be ready to give what God had asked us to give.**

God loved the world and He showed His love to us by sending His own Son, and Jesus Christ God’s Son showed His love to God the Father when He did His will and accepted the death on the cross. Jesus showed His love for us when He suffered the pain and paid the price of our sins on the cross. Jesus Christ showed His commitment by what He gave, and this is how commitment and love measured by how much you give. **From the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross and the pain of the crucifixion that he passed through, we can see that giving can include the pain and the suffering of persecution whether in verbal through cruel mocking and insults, or of material losses or the physical pain, body hurts, body losses, incapacitations and even death, which certain time may occur, and God wants us to offer all of such to Him.**

The Lord Jesus Christ said, **“39 He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.” (Matthew 10:39 KJV)** **The meaning of to lose your life is to give your life to Jesus and to give all what you have to Him, and that is not a loss but a gain.** We know that salvation is free, **“8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.” (Ephesians 2:8-9 KJV)** **Yes salvation is free but it costs you all your life that in return you need to give all what you have to God.** To understand more about that let us read some of the true events from the Bible.

**4) “16 And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? 17 And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. 18 He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, 19 Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 20 The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet? 21 Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have**

**treasure in heaven: and come and follow me. 22 But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.” (Matthew 19:16-22 KJV)** As we can see clearly that this man came to Jesus to know how he can get eternal life. That man believed in Jesus and did the commandment but Jesus tested his true love to God by how much he can give to the poor.

**“18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.” (1 John 3:18 KJV)** **To show your true love to God is by how much you are ready to give what is due for Him. When we fail to give what is ought to give we sin against the Lord. But in returning back to the Lord and in repentance by our willingness to give He receives us and grants us Salvation.** Let us read another true event from the Bible that speaks about salvation granted after willingness to repent and to do what is right in giving what is due for God and for the people.

**5) “1 And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. 2 And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich. 3 And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature. 4 And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycomore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way. 5 And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house. 6 And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully. 7 And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner. 8 And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord: Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold. 9 And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham.” (Luke 19:1-9 KJV)** Zacchaeus showed his true repentance by his willingness to compensate the people the harm he had done, and his readiness to give half of his money to the poor. **He showed His real repentance through giving, and with this we understand why Jesus granted him salvation.** Let us read another event from the Bible that Jesus recommended giving:

**6) “3 And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head. 4 And there were some that had indignation within themselves, and said, Why was this waste of the ointment made? 5 For it might have been sold for more than three hundred pence, and have been given to the poor. And they murmured against her. 6 And Jesus said, Let her alone; why trouble ye her? she hath wrought a good work on me. 7 For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good: but me ye have not always. 8 She hath done what she could: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying. 9 Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her.” (Mark 14:3-9 KJV)** We found that this woman had shown her true love to Jesus by offering to Him something very expensive which was equal to a year salary of one worker.

**My dear and beloved: “18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.” (1 John 3:18 KJV)** **Faith in Jesus must be accompanied by actions. In the same way your love to Jesus must be accompanied by your willingness to give. Therefore,**

let us love God with actions and in truth. Let us be ready to give; to open our treasures and present Him with gifts. Let us be willing to give our lives, hearts, our plans, time, ambitions, skills, talents, and treasures. Let us be ready to suffer for Jesus and got persecuted for His sake. Let us train ourselves not to withhold from Him anything He asked us, and to give all what we have to live on. Let us train those people with us and our families to be ready to give to God when He calls us to give.

Let us pray ...

**My prayer:** *Father God I come before you in the name of your Son Jesus Christ who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for all the material blessings that comes from you and for all the spiritual gifts that you gave to me. Lord thank you for the ministry that you entrusted to me to do for you. Lord thank you for the teaching we received in this message and thank you for all what we had received from corrections, rebukes and admonishments.*

*Repent and renounce all your sins. Repent of your non willingness to give to God what he asked you to give to Him. Repent of your non willingness to give your tithes, offerings and your firstfruits unto God. Repent of your non willingness to serve God and to get persecuted for Him. Repent of your non willingness to receive pain, mocking, insults and suffer for Christ. Repent of your non willingness to travel and toil for the ministries of God. Repent of spending your time, effort, skills and resources doing your own projects, your own plan and your own will. Lord forgive me I repent of the following sins: \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Lord, I commit myself to bring my tithes and various offerings and my firstfruits to support God's works, your church and ministries. Lord I commit myself to start to serve you and do your will and suffer for your cause and purpose. Lord teach me to open my treasures and give you good gifts. Lord teach me to give and to offer you things that honor your name. Lord teach me not to withhold anything from you, and to give you all what I have to live on. Lord I commit myself to give the following as you asked me to do \_\_\_\_\_. Lord I commit myself to give the following to the poor \_\_\_\_\_. Lord I commit myself to suffer pain and persecution for your cause and purpose. Lord I commit myself to toil and travel in order to fulfill your work. Lord I commit myself to train my family and children to be ready to give you what is due for you. Lord fill me with the Holy Spirit and give to me the spiritual gifts that I need in order to evangelize and make new disciples. Lord protect me and provide all my needs so that I can continue to go on and serve you. Thank you Lord, this is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.*

*Lord, thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who repented of their sins and willing to amend their ways and to go back to you and serve you and doing your works and willing to give you what is due for you, to give you what you had asked them to give, who are willing to open their treasures and bless you, and who are willing to bear the pain to travel to suffer and to get persecuted and rejected for your name's sake. Lord reward them for every giving, offering, suffering, and sacrifice they offered to you. Lord prosper the works of their hands and their ministries. Lord use them as good example to others to go on and serve you and do your works and you will.*

*Lord bless us as a church to continue to teach what is correct. Lord we commit ourselves to do the good works that you had prepared for us to do. Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit and give us the Spiritual gifts that we need in our lives to go on and evangelize, and make new disciples and train new workers to go and plant new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to be water Baptized and receive the Holy Spirit Baptism. Lord prepare us for your coming to go with you when you come. Lord take the message and spread it to achieve the purpose of sending it. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.*

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