SOTM pt4 – Structured to Win – A Gospel That Prospers: An End-Time Message

[Mat 6:3-4 NASB95] 3 "But when you give to the poor, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your giving will be in secret; and your Father who sees [what is done] in secret will reward you.

[2Co 8:7 NASB95] 7 But just as you abound in everything, in faith and utterance and knowledge and in all earnestness and in the love we inspired in you, [see] that you abound in this gracious work also.

[2Co 9:6-11 NASB95] 6 Now this [I say,] he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 Each one [must do] just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed; 9 as it is written, "HE SCATTERED ABROAD, HE GAVE TO THE POOR, HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS ENDURES FOREVER." 10 Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness; 11 you will be enriched in everything for all liberality, which through us is producing thanksgiving to God.

- There is not a prosperity Gospel. There is a Gospel that prospers. Giving and prosperity are part of the Gospel message.
- Jesus, fixed the problems as part of the His Gospel. See Luke 4 [Luk 4:18 NASB95] 18
 "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH
 THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE
 CAPTIVES, AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET FREE THOSE WHO
 ARE OPPRESSED,
- Understanding supernatural provision and prosperity is an end-time message. We need
 to learn how to live outside the system of the world. [Rev 13:16-17 NASB95] 16 And he
 causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the
 slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand or on their forehead, 17 and [he provides]
 that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, [either] the
 name of the beast or the number of his name.
- In 2 Corinthians 8-9, we get some of the most important teachings about giving and prosperity. Paul was talking with the church of Corinth about an offering they had pledged to give.

What does God want us to know as part of the end-time Gospel message on prosperity?

Here are five important things God wants us to know about giving and receiving.

- I. God wants us to grow in the grace of giving.
 - a. [2Co 8:7 NASB95] 7 But just as you abound in everything, in faith and utterance and knowledge and in all earnestness and in the love we inspired in you, [see] that you abound in this gracious work also.
 - b. [Mat 6:24 NASB95] 24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.
 - c. Giving is the antidote to materialism and coveting.

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II. God wants us to understand the connection of giving and receiving.

- a. [2Co 9:6 NASB95] 6 Now this [I say,] he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.
- b. [Pro 3:9-10 NASB95] 9 Honor the LORD from your wealth And from the first of all your produce; 10 So your barns will be filled with plenty And your vats will overflow with new wine.
- c. It is antibiblical to preach giving and not expect God to give to you.

III. God wants us to give on purpose.

- a. [2Co 9:7 NASB95] 7 Each one [must do] just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
- b. [2Co 8:5, 12 NASB95] 5 and [this,] not as we had expected, but they first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God. ... 12 For if the readiness is present, it is acceptable according to what [a person] has, not according to what he does not have.
 - i. To the Lord.
 - ii. To the work of God.
- c. [Mar 10:29-30 NASB95] 29 Jesus said, "Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or farms, for My sake and for the gospel's sake, 30 but that he will receive a hundred times as much now in the present age, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and farms, along with persecutions; and in the age to come, eternal life.

IV. God wants us to abound in His power of provision.

- a. [2Co 9:8 NASB95] 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;
- b. The same abounding in 8:7, God causes us to abound in the grace of provision and prosperity.
- c. Provision and prosperity look like all-sufficiency.
- d. Provision and prosperity look like abundance for every good work.
 - i. Genesis 12:1-3 blessed to be a blessing.

V. God wants to give to givers.

- a. [2Co 9:10 NASB95] 10 Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness;
- b. Intension is a matter of the heart.
- God wants us to grow in giving and receiving as part of the Gospel and surviving in the end-times.