GENEROUS LIVING

l. Mal 3:8-12

A. Two types of giving mentioned in the Bible

1. Tithes/firstfruits

- a) Gen 28:22 22...and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You."
- b) **Ex 23:19** 19 The first of the firstfruits of your land you shall bring into the house of the Lord your God.
- c) Lev 27:30 30 And all the tithe of the land...is the Lord's. It is holy to the Lord.
- d) **<u>Deut 26:13</u>** I have removed the holy tithe from my house.
- e) **Prov 3:9-10** 9 Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase.
- 2. **<u>Offerings</u>** Over and above the tithe; out of our portion

II. <u>2 Cor 9:1-11</u>

A. V2 - Choice to Give

- 1. On board and eager Willing (Choice)
- 2. **Passion to give** Excessive; intense feeling or conviction
- 3. **<u>Contagious</u>** Transmissible by direct or indirect contact with an infected person
- 4. **<u>Stirred</u>** To disturb a settled state or position
 - a) <u>**2 Tim 1:6-7**</u> 6 Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. 7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power and of love and of a sound mind.
 - (1) "Fan into a flame and rekindle the fire of the spiritual gift God put in you". Passion Translation

B. V4 - Prepared to Give

- 1. **<u>Prepare</u>** To make ready before hand; Strategy, Plan
- 2. What is your giving "plan" Failing to plan is planning to fail

C. V5 - Motivated to Give

- 1. Generosity Willing and Excessive
- 2. Under Pressure Obligation, by force; wrong motives

D. V6 - Quantity to Give

- 1. **<u>Stingy</u>** restraint; done in a limited, sparing manner and of negligible quantity or extent
- 2. **<u>Generous spirit</u>** Against the grain of our old nature but is part of our new nature.

- a) Renew our mind to generosity Transformed by
- b) Go from being a taker to a giver.
- 3. **<u>Sows</u>** To plant a seed or set something in motion
 - a) "From" a generous spirit
- 4. Quantity of Harvest is directly related to quantity of sowing

E. V7 - Source of Giving

- 1. "Your" heart Something you "want" to do not "have" to do.
- 2. No regrets What we could have done with it
- 3. God loves hilarious generosity

F. V8 - Result of Giving

- 1. Overwhelmed is usually a negative; Overwhelmed with every form of grace
- 2. More than enough for everything El'-Shaddai

G. V10 - Multiply your Giving

- 1. God supplies seed to the sower
- 2. Multiplies it "as you sow it"

H. V11 - Enriched by Giving

1. <u>Enriched</u> - To make more fertile; to improve by adding nutrients and especially by restoring part of the nutrients lost in processing