

Beloved brethren,

For those who do not know, the church house is in need of about \$20,000 for completion, and our goal and earnest desire is to be worshipping in the church by mid-April (Praise God!). The money that was given for construction at the first, was used faithfully to pay wages, pay bills, and literally meet the needs of the Church... as the scripture commands us, "But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels *of compassion* from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?" 1Jn 3:17 Though it was even out of our own need, it was God's will for us to spend out of that initial fund, and to trust God for provision when we need it, thus we gave it cheerfully for the glory of God. We knew that God would provide and God most often provides through his people. So I desire to put a few things before you to consider...

Remember that for several weeks now, Tanner's business has had steady work every day, even booked two weeks out, after a nearly silent winter. Remember that Dan's business just signed a large commercial contract, something he has never had before, of this magnitude, which dramatically changes his company. Remember that the saw mill has seen more efficiency and grace to labor together to produce more pallet material than ever before, thus seeing shadows of the true potential that Rick was always burdened for. Remember that Gilead's is on the verge of a large contract with Victron, which we have been praying for months regarding. And on top of all of this, remember now that many families are getting \$2000-\$8000 in these coming weeks (Some have received already) in tax returns – tax returns alone should total over \$80,000 this year.

My appeal to you brethren, as God has evidently given an increase overall, is that it is not to our personal gain and personal use. Oh remember that the love of money is the root of all evil, and that no man can serve two masters; one cannot serve God and mammon (Matt 6:24). "But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition." (1 Tim 6:9) And we desire to repeat this charge, as initially given, "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life." (1 Timothy 6:17-19 KJV)

Lastly, I desire to take you back to the Exodus generation. I was reading in Exodus a little over a week ago, and I felt like the Lord was speaking to me regarding the church house. In Exodus 36, you will find Bezaleel and Aholiab and every wise hearted man working for the service of the sanctuary. This is the generation that was first saved out of Egypt with Moses. And mind you, that this is also a rebellious generation that eventually didn't follow through with God...**yet see their heart towards building the sanctuary of God!**

"And they received of Moses all the offering, which the children of Israel had brought for the work of the service of the sanctuary, to make it *withal*. And they brought yet unto him free offerings every morning." (Exodus 36:3 KJV)

Every morning offerings were brought for the sanctuary of the Lord. Now I am sure that some were tempted to think that this offering must be enough by now, as the pile of offerings grew and grew, morning by morning, yet the offerings never ceased. So liberal was their heart, that they gave to God – without consideration of what they had already given and what others had given, whether they thought it was enough or no, nor do we see that they gave out of constraint or with a grudge, but they gave cheerfully (otherwise, would not God have seen it fit to show us otherwise?) They **continued** to give until a **proclamation** was made throughout the camp, and a **commandment given to cease to give!** Would to God that we would give until commanded to stop!

"And they spake unto Moses, saying, The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work, which the LORD commanded to make. And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary. So the people were restrained from bringing." (Exodus 36:5-6 KJV)

The people had to be restrained from "bringing" more offerings. Glory to God! I marvel that this first generation had such a heart of liberality. I know we have much debt, and some things of necessity, but "what hast thou that thou didst not receive?" 1 Cor 4:7

Should it be any surprise that the increase of every business and the addition of our tax returns arrives at such a time as this? May we be faithful with that which is least, that God may give us the true riches. Luke 16:10

God's word is true: " But this *I say*, He which soweth *sparingly* shall reap also *sparingly*; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." (2 Cor 9:6)

Please consider wisely this stewardship entrusted to you.

Love you beloved brethren,
Your servant for Christ's sake,
Jesse