

Giving Your Best

by Oswald Chambers

The sermon emphasizes the importance of giving our best, obeying Jesus Christ's command, and allowing God to work through us, rather than measuring our life by success.

Scripture: Matthew 26:7, John 7:38, John 12:3, Acts 3:6

Topics: "Sacrificial Giving", "Selfless Obedience"

Description

Oswald Chambers preaches on the concept of sacrificial giving, emphasizing the importance of self-expenditure and pouring out what God has given us to others. He challenges the common interpretation of 'Give to him who asks you' as solely related to money, highlighting the deeper meaning of selfless giving and obedience to Jesus' commands. Chambers uses the example of Mary of Bethany's extravagant act of devotion to illustrate the joy it brings to God when we abandon ourselves completely to Him, without concern for worldly economy or logic.

Transcript

"■Then Peter said, 'Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.'" Acts 3:6

"Give to him who asks you.' Why do we always make this mean money? Our Lord makes no mention of money. ... We enthrone common senses as God and say, 'It is absurd; if I give to everyone that asks, every beggar in the place will be at my door.'

"Try it. I have yet to find the man who obeyed Jesus Christ's command and did not realize that God retrains those who beg."

The sacrament of sacrifice (September 2)

He that believeth in Me, . . . out of him shall flow. . . . John 7:38.

Jesus did not say--'he that believeth in Me shall realize the blessing of the fullness of God,' but--'he that believeth in Me, out of him shall escape everything he receives.' Our Lord's teaching is always anti-self-realization. His purpose is not the development of a man; His purpose is to make a man exactly like Himself, and the characteristic of the Son of God is self-expenditure. If we believe in Jesus, it is not what we gain, but what He pours through us that counts. It is not that God makes us beautifully rounded grapes, but that He squeezes the sweetness out of us. Spiritually, we cannot measure our life by success,

but only by what God pours through us, and we cannot measure that at all.

"When Mary of Bethany broke the box of precious ointment and poured it on Jesus' head, it was an act for which no one else saw any occasion; the disciples said it was a waste. But Jesus commended Mary for her extravagant act of devotion.... Our Lord is carried beyond Himself with joy when He sees any of us doing what Mary did, not being set on this or that economy, but being abandoned to Him. God spilt the life of His Son that the world might be saved; are we prepared to spill out our lives for Him?

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