

Don't Clog Your Soul

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Years ago I read this adage, “Faith is the intake and love is the outlet of the soul.” If that is the case, then we must keep both the intake and outlet open.

Jesus said in Matthew 10:8, “Freely ye have received, freely give.” We receive by faith, and we give because we love. Giving is an expression of love. I’ve often said that one can give without loving, but one cannot love without giving. The Scripture says in John 3:16, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son...

Remember that we’re not owners, we’re stewards. Whatever we have—whether it be money, houses, cars, lands or whatever—it was entrusted to us by God, and we’re expected to be good stewards. That is, we have received freely, so we should freely give.

Keep both the intake and the outlet of your soul open. The Dead Sea is dead because it only receives. It has no outlet. It never gives. And the soul that only receives sooner or later, in a sense, becomes a dead soul.

As you get older, your capacity to earn income increases. And usually, with the children grown and married, your financial needs decrease. The result is, you have more to give.

When that is the case, you ought to give more. But be sure you make wise investments. God will hold you responsible for how you invest the money He has entrusted to you as His steward. Support only ministries and causes in which you have complete confidence and with which you wholeheartedly agree. Don't use your money to support a preacher who does not believe the Bible is the Word of God or a cause that runs contrary to the clear teachings of the Bible.

In my opinion, the wisest investment is in the souls of men. Support soul-winning ministries. Use your dollars to win souls to Christ. In doing so, you're making friends who will greet you on the other side when you leave this body and move out for Heaven.

In Luke 16:9 the Scripture says, "Make to yourselves friends of the mammon [money] of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail [die], they may receive you into everlasting habitations." I take the verse to mean that we are to use our money to win souls to Christ so that, when we fail or die, they will receive us into Heaven—the everlasting habitation.

Don't let your soul get clogged. Keep both the intake and outlet open. I once said to my wife, "Let's be a-givin' while we're livin', and we'll be a-knowin' where it's goin'."

As you learn to give and give more, you'll find that Acts 20:35 is really true: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." You'll also learn that the more you give, the more you'll have. John Bunyan once said,

**There was a man in our town
(Some folks did think him mad);
The more he gave away,
The more he had.**

You cannot out give God. He will be no man's debtor.