

From Our Father's Heart
16782

Why do you hang on to things that are not yours?
Each day I observe your comings and goings.
I see what you are striving for
and what you are setting aside.
You are still making a futile attempt
to hold those things close
that I want to pry from your hands.
They are like idols to you;
you must throw them aside as the rubbish that they are.
Look how you hold to your reputation.
I want you to seek true humility;
you long to be recognized.
Your days are spent in the quest for riches –
only to hoard them or use them
to pad your comfort areas.
Can you not see that those things that hold you captive
only hinder you from being free
to have My interests as your priorities?
Come to Me with a desire to seek out My kind of true wealth.
Come to Me to learn of a freedom
that you have never enjoyed.
Come and learn of My heart.
You will never regret holding close
those riches that I impart to you.
You will never achieve the kind of joy
that is your heritage unless My desires become your desires.
I love you.
I want to use you to accomplish My plan in your midst.
Come now; let's readjust your priorities together.

So many Bible verses come to mind as I ponder the above word. Listen to these for starters.

Acts 8:1 and 4 NIV On that day a great persecution broke out against the church at Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.

4) Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went.

Let's see. I get kicked out of my home. I have no place to live. I've lost everything. What a great time to proclaim victory in Christ. I believe that my priority should be preaching the Gospel to those who hate me. THAT WOULD BE MY ATTITUDE - YEAH, RIGHT!!!

II Cor. 9:6-8 NIV Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

7) Each man should also give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

8) And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

OK, OK, I'll give 10% of what I earn. Is that 10% of the net or the gross? I guess it doesn't matter; I just want to know. I have to be a good steward, ya know.

Colossians 3:1-4 AMP If then you have been raised with Christ [to a new life, thus sharing His resurrection from the dead], aim at *and* seek the [rich, eternal treasures] that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

2) And set your minds *and* keep them set on what is above (the higher things), not on the things that are on the earth.

3) For [as far as this world is concerned] you have died, and your [new, real] life is hidden with Christ in God.

4) When Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in [the splendor of His] glory.

Only ten more years until I retire. Then watch me do this Christian thing. I think I'll get a horse and put "Jesus loves you" on the saddlebags and go across country. What a witness that will be!

I am really beginning to smell my own rotting flesh when I compare my motives to those who have gone before me. How about you? I really appreciate the patience of the Lord. Whew!!

I need Your heart, Lord - Jim Corbett