

GOD'S GIFT OF GIVING

#2 WHAT TO GIVE THE GOD WHO HAS EVERYTHING

1 Chronicles 29:10-22 Romans 11:33-12:8

1 OUR REASON FOR WORSHIP LIES BEYOND HUMAN REASON

A. Paul's Doxological Shout-out to God's Infinite Transcendence

Jb. 26:14 Behold, these are but the outskirts of his ways, and how small a whisper do we hear of him! But the thunder of his power who can understand?" **Isa. 55:8-9** For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

B. Paul's Assertion Supported by Scripture in Three Rhetorical Questions

2 OUR REASON FOR GIVING IS THAT GOD NEEDS NOTHING

A. God's Absolute Ownership of All, Twice Over: by Creation & Redemption

Psa. 50:10-15 For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is mine. "If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and its fullness are mine. Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats? Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High, and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me."

Act. 17:24-27 The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him.

Col. 1:20 ...and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

B. The Impossibility of Giving to God What Is Not Already His

1Chr. 29:10-14 Therefore David blessed the LORD in the presence of all the assembly. And David said: "Blessed are you, O LORD, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name. But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you."

Jhn. 3:27 John answered, "A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven.

1Cor. 4:7 What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?

3 OUR REASONABLE WORSHIP LIES IN GIVING OURSELVES BACK TO GOD

A. Offer Your Bodies As Living Sacrifices & Be Transformed by Mind Renewal

Rom. 6:13 Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.

B. Serve the Body By the Differing Measures of Faith & Giftedness You've Received

2Cor. 8:3-5 For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints—and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.

CONFESSING OUR FAITH

CANONS OF DORDT

OF THE CORRUPTION OF MAN, HIS CONVERSION TO GOD, & THE MANNER THEREOF

And this is the **regeneration** so highly celebrated in Scripture, and denominated a **new creation**: a **resurrection** from the dead, a making alive, which God works in us without our aid. But this is in no wise effected merely by the external preaching of the gospel, by moral suasion, or such a mode of operation, that after God has performed his part, it still remains in the power of man to be regenerated or not, to be converted, or to continue unconverted; but it is evidently a supernatural work, most powerful, and at the same time most delightful, astonishing, mysterious, and ineffable; not inferior in efficacy to creation, or the resurrection from the dead....so that all in whose heart God works in this marvelous manner, are certainly, infallibly, and effectually regenerated, and do actually believe...

The manner of this operation cannot be fully comprehended by believers in this life. Notwithstanding which, they rest satisfied with knowing and experiencing that **by this grace of God they are enabled to believe with the heart, and love their Savior.**

AMEN

2Cor. 4:6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2Cor. 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.

Rom. 6:13 ...but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.

Eph. 2:4-5 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved...