

*Of Mites and Myrrh*

# God is For Giving

*Part 1 - February 24, 2007*

Mark this day, for on this day is begun a journey into the very Heart of God;  
a Heart that is Forgiving, a Heart that is for Giving.

Giving is the one signature belief of every religion known to man. No matter what version of God you believe in, or what variety of gods you honor, a core doctrine is giving. You may believe it is important to give your possessions, or you may hold that you must give of yourself, either way you still give.

From our earliest Christian experiences we have been taught to give. It has become so automatic it may have lost all meaning. I remember writing a check several years ago and handing it to an elderly church treasurer the day before our regular service. He did not accept the check. Instead he told me to wait until the offering call the next day because God's Presence is with us when we place an offering in the plate.

Indeed, God's Presence is ever with us; yet He desires to also bless us with His Power. Each of us has opportunity to experience this Power in different ways. As treasurer of Promised Land, I have been called to witness this Power through offerings. While I do not hold that gifts must be placed in a plate or offering chest, I do know for a fact that gifts are at the very least double sided; both the giver and the recipient benefit.

Of late, I am beginning to understand that true gifts, given in a giving spirit, are multi-faceted; abounding blessings beyond our wildest dreams. They might be compared to a perfectly cut diamond, delicate and lovely, catching light from one source and bending it to sparkle in a hundred angles.

Oh, what joys the Lord has waiting for those  
who use their diamonds to spin the Light into a hundred dark places!

Offerings are a gateway to understanding the heart of God. Since God cannot be "outgiven", He always turns offerings around to bless the giver even more. As a life of giving and receiving is cultivated, the believer begins to understand, appreciate and adore both the Giver and the Gift.

In the coming weeks I will be sharing with the Body some ways to unlock the abundant blessings God reserves for men and women after God's Own Heart. As an appetizer, I have included a list of popular giving areas here at Promised Land.

Dwelling in the Presence of God, we are recipients of Christ's giving and participants in Christian giving. As we move to abiding in the Presence and the Power of God, we shall experience the ultimate Giving, and He who is For Giving.

