

Assignment Title: Stewardship & the Kingdom of God

Name of Book / Right Ronald Walborn and Frank Chan

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God gave believers responsibility to be good stewards of what He gave to them such as the world, humanity, spiritual gifts, redemption, sanctification and resources. God entrusted them to us for a little while, but they all belong to Him. God gave believers all these wonderful things to make our lives happy. God's purpose for giving these resources to us is not to keep them all for ourselves, but God has made us stewards of them to manage, and give them back to him in tithes and offerings, and to those in need. The bible says the purpose of tithing is to teach believers to always put God first in our lives. "And thou shalt eat before the LORD thy God, in the place which he shall choose to place his name there, the tithe of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the firstlings of thy herds and of thy flocks; that thou mayest learn to fear the LORD thy God always (Deuteronomy 14:23 [King James Version])."¹

My view is that for us to see a real change in the body of Christ today we must first start in teaching, what the Kingdom of God means. The Kingdom of God refers to the rule and reign of God in our lives. When we come under the rule and reign of God, all our substance belongs to Him. When believers enter the Kingdom of God they should experience a change of heart. We now serve a new master and everything we have belongs to Him. "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein (Psalm 24: 1 [King James Version])."²

My personal worldview is that believers think stewardship concerns money, but it really means to practice the word of God. The "shoemaker" in this article did not have money, but he had the richness and joy of Christ. He did not make a lot of money from his job but what little he had and gave, he received relationship and blessing from the Holy Spirit and this experience gave him joy, and he started to witness to all he came in contact with. "He tells and gives. He didn't just preach about God's grace. He lived it."³

When believers experience what the Lord has done, we will give generously and thoughtfully. I believe what we need to do today is to teach believers the genuine word of God and teach believers how to live and practice the Word of God in every area of their lives. Jesus gives his best for us; therefore we should not give Him our second best or left over. Our best should be what is given to God.

I disagree partially with the author when he says that the church is preaching a “bloodless cross.” All of the churches are not preaching a “bloodless cross.” He should use some of the churches. It is necessary for believers to use the blood to defeat Satan. I cannot see how any church can omit the “Blood of Jesus” that cleanses us from our sins. (1 John 1:7 [Kings James Version]).⁴ Additionally, I agree that Tithes are tenth in the Old Testament but it is not in the New Testament. However, I think believers need to give holistically and not put a limit on giving, so I believe it is not limited to 10% as it is referred to today, it is to give wisely and cheerfully. The author expressed that “the spirit of the tithe is well expressed in (Proverbs 3:9, 10 [King James Version])⁵ “Honor the Lord with your substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase: so shall thine barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.”

The article will impact my theology and current ministry because the author used biblical principles about stewardship. Therefore, I will teach these principles in my ministry to help believers walk in the word and teach them how to manage and be good stewards of everything God bless them with. I minister to the residents at the Caton nursing home. I would like to teach them about stewardship over their relationship with God. In conclusion I personally think that the information I acquire will enhance my belief and will impact my relationship with God.

Bibliography

1. (Deuteronomy 14:23 [King James Version]).
2. (Psalm 24: 1 [King James Version]).
3. Stewardship and the Kingdom of God Copyright © 2001 Ronald Walborn and Frank Chan All rights reserved. Office of Church Stewardship The Christian and Missionary Alliance, 7.
4. (1 John 1:7 [King James Version]).
5. (Proverbs 3:9, 10 [King James Version]).

With integrity, I have read this book (circle one):

Thoroughly and Entirely X %

Quickly but Completely _____%

Thoroughly but NOT Entirely _____%

Quickly and NOT Completely _____%

Not at all

Signed: Salome King-Afuape