

It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (**1 John 1:9**).

Standing on the Promises of God - -

Micah 7:7 But as for me, I will watch expectantly for the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation. My God will hear me.

Rule of Application - If a shade of application is stated in the New Testament Epistles, then the shade of application applies to the Christian living today.

Matthew 6:1

“Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to be noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father who is in heaven.

POD: The Church Age Believer [*the Christian living in the Age of Grace*] should refrain from calling attention to himself in the execution of the responsibilities of his priesthood (Matthew 6:1 cf. Ephesians 2:10; 6:18; Philippians 4:18; Romans 12:1; Hebrews 13:15, 16).

Remember the two shades of application that apply directly to the believer today -

1. Grace Giving (**Matthew 6: 2-4**)
2. Praying (**Matthew 6:5-15**)

²“So when you give to the poor. . .

ποιέω + ἐλεημοσύνη – POIEO plus ELEEMOSUNE

- > “Alms” – giving to the poor; “Charitable giving”
- > What is the shade of this for the Church Age Believer in the New Testament Epistles?

Grace Giving

²“So when you give to the poor, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the **hypocrites** do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be honored by men.

Grace Giving is a matter determined between you and the Lord only!

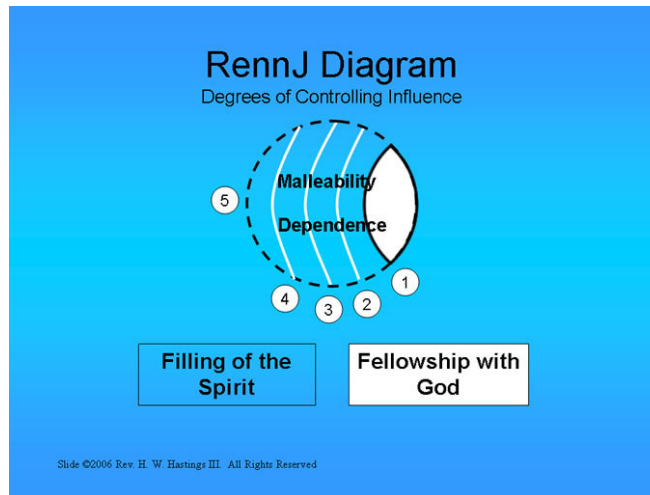
Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full [*being recognized before men*].

POD - The Pharisees gave to be righteous in men’s eyes; however the kingdom subject gives because he is righteous in God’s eyes.

POD - Religious people (*believer & unbeliever*) are motivated to give from without through solicitation of funds and marketing techniques for the honor of men.

Isaiah 64:6 “. . . all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment. . .”

POD - The spiritual believer is directed by the Spirit from within to give for the glory of God in secret.



Bible Doctrine + malleability + dependence = “The Mind of Christ”

3 “But when you [kingdom subject OR grace giver living today] give to the poor, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, **4** so that your giving will be in secret; and your Father who sees *what is done* in secret will reward you.

No one is to take note of Christian giving other than God!
 God’s note is the notice that counts!

POD - God rewards the kingdom subject who gives in secret.

- Does God reward the Church Age Believer who gives in secret? Yes!
 - ✓ In time (**2 Corinthians 9:7-11**)
 - ✓ In eternity (**1 Corinthians 3:12-15 cf. 2 Corinthians 5:10**)

POD - The Church Age Believer is to secretly follow the protocol of grace giving as revealed in the New Testament Epistles.

All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.