

Is it okay to give wherein in my mind I'm thinking that God will bless or reward me back for the generosity? Is it okay to give and help with a mindset of expecting God to bless or reward me back in return? Is God not pleased because I'm helping to get something back from Him?

One should not give in an attempt to manipulate God; Rather, God loves a cheerful giver (2 Co 9:7). He can give freely (2 Co 9:6; Ge 4:2–4; 8:20; Ex 25:1, 2; 35:4, 5, 21, 22; 36:5–7; Num 18:12; Deut 16:10, 17; 1 Chr 29:9; Prov 3:9, 10; 11:24; Lk 19:1–8).

David asked others to give (1 Chr 28:1) as he did (1 Chr 28:3-4).

The poor widow gave all that she had (Lk 21:1–4). Perhaps greedy men encouraged this (Mk 12:40).

God merely asks that one give: without show (Mt 6:1–4), according to ability (1 Co 16:1, 2), willingly (1 Chr 29:3–9), liberally (2 Co 9:6–15) and proportionately (Mal 3:10).¹

J. Vernon McGee wrote:

...Make sure that you are giving to that which will accumulate treasure for you in heaven. If it is used for the propagation of the gospel and to get out the Word of God, it becomes legal tender in heaven, and that is how we gather treasure in heaven.

Perhaps you are saying, “But I don’t give for that reason.” You ought to, because our Lord said, “Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven.” That is a laudable motive for giving. And He gives the reason: “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” If you get enough treasure laid up in heaven, you are certainly going to think a lot about heaven. But if it is in the bank, your thoughts are going to be on the bank. There is an ever-present danger of worshipping mammon rather than God.²

Seek to please him giving him your: time, talent and treasure. Rewards will come in heaven (Lk 16:25).

¹ Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). Nelson’s quick reference topical Bible index (p. 256). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers.

² McGee, J. V. (1991). Thru the Bible commentary: The Gospels (Matthew 1-13) (electronic ed., Vol. 34, pp. 95–96). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.