

## **G**IVING

2 Sam. 24:18-24

INTRO: Our text was spoken by David unto Araunah the Jebusite after he had offered to give David an ox for a sacrifice and to furnish all the wood for the same. This brought about the statement: "Neither will I offer burnt-offerings unto Jehovah my God which cost me nothing." (vs. 24).

### I. I WILL NOT.

- A. Many are just like this, just negative in thinking and action. I will not. The elder son when he was told by his father to go into the vineyard and work said, "I will not." He later repented. Mat. 21:29.
- B. Sometimes brethren get rebellious. When truth is preached, just for meanness they say, "I will not."

### II. I WILL NOT GIVE.

- A. Many will not give anything. They are tightwads. They are outcast in the community. No one wants to have anything to do with them. They always let you pay the bill.
- B. Many brethren are the same. They will let you do all the giving, but want to enjoy benefits of a building, preaching, all the services, and even take part of credit for the same. Some just will not give, for example, the rich young ruler. Matt. 19:16-22.

# III. I WILL NOT GIVE UNTO THE LORD.

- A. Many will not give to the Lord. Many brethren will not. They just refuse to give to the church.
- B. Many will give to the Red Cross, Community Chest, Goodwill, American Legion, Masons, etc. They will be bragged on. They do it to be seen of men. They will not do as the Lord commands. 1 Cor. 16:1-2. Giving must come from the heart. 2 Cor. 8:9; Gal. 6:7-8; 2 Cor. 9:6-7.

#### IV. I WILL NOT GIVE UNTO THE LORD A SACRIFICE.

- A. Many will give to the Lord. Then come to church and expect to make a contribution. Many cannot understand why we do not take a collection every time we meet.
- B. Many brethren will give to the Lord, but give only surplus that they feel they can get along without. Some will give a sacrifice, but it is almost valueless. (Example: Little old man with his salt mackerel.) Rom. 12:1; Phil. 4:18; 1 Cor. 10:20.
- C. Many are sacrificing today to demons in the form of pleasure, property, families, etc., in that they give more time to those things than to God.
- D. This sacrifice would have been good, but would not profit David unless he paid for it.

## V. I WILL NOT GIVE UNTO THE LORD A SACRIFICE THAT COSTS ME NOTHING.

- A. David realized that the sacrifice would be worth nothing to him if it cost him nothing.
- B. We need a sacrifice that costs us something. It may be time, money, friendship, T.V., loved ones, etc.
- C. The church would really mean something to us if we put something into it. We can get credit for it if we put something into it. Many show that the church means nothing to them; it costs them nothing. They will not give.
- D. The church is torn asunder by those that it costs nothing. They murmur, complain, hinder, etc.
- E. May we all say what David said in the text.
- F. Let us put something into the Lord's work—something besides slander, gossip, destruction, division, etc.

CONCL: Ananias and Sapphira wanted to keep back part of their sacrifice and pretended to give more. Acts 5:1-2. The widow gave all. Mark 12:41-44. Which will we do?

**Giving** Page 2 of 2