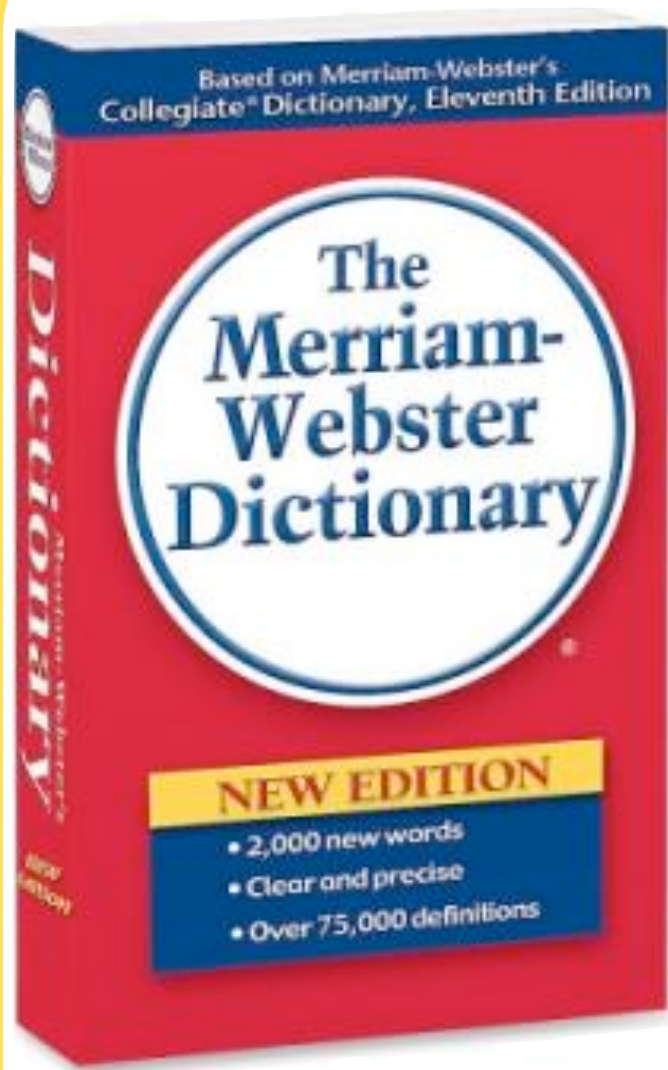


"Give of Your Best To The Master"

*Learning to
Make Spiritual
Sacrifices that
Truly Please
God*



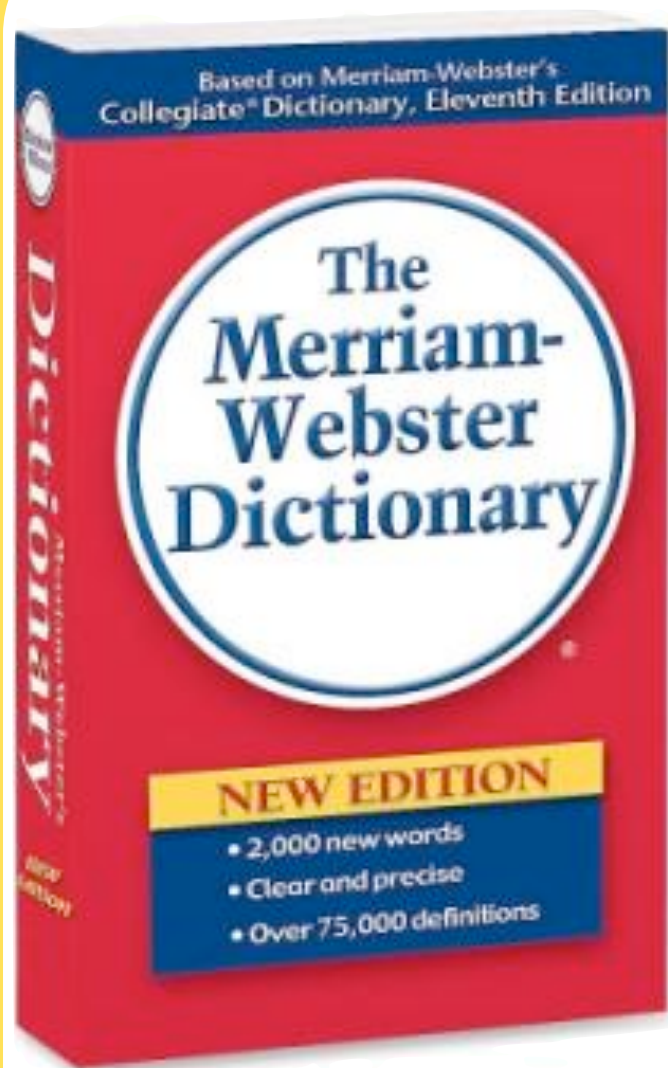
"Give of Your Best To The Master"



◆ The Best

- * : better than all others in quality or value
- * : most skillful, talented, or successful
- * : most appropriate, useful, or helpful

"Give of Your Best To The Master"



◆ The Best

- * Not just what we consider "good"
- * Not that which may be "better" than most
- * But that which is "best"

Numbers 18:12,29,30; Ex 22:29

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◆ The Firstfruits



- * God demanded the firstfruits (Pro 3:9; Deut 26:1,2; Ex 23:19)
- * The first is the best (Num. 18:12; Micah 7:1; Hos. 9:10; Nah. 3:12)
- * First things first (Lev. 23:19; Exo. 22:29,30; Lev. 19:23–25)

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◆ The Firstlings



- * The firstling belonged to God (Exo. 13:12; 34:19; Lev. 27:26)
- * Must be best quality without blemish (Lev. 22:21–25; Mal. 1:7,8)
- * The firstling is holy (Num. 18:15–17; Deut. 12:5–7)
- * Devoted to God (Lev. 27:26–28)

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◆ The Firstborn

- * The firstborn belonged to God (Exo. 13:1,2; Num. 3:13)
- * The firstborn is chosen because he is precious & privileged (Exo. 13:2; Zech. 12:10; Deut. 21:16,17)
- * "Thou shalt not delay" (Exo. 22:29; Lev. 12:2–6) – "shalt thou surely redeem" (Num. 18:15)



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Malachi 1:6-14 (NKJV)

⁶ "A son honors *his* father, And a servant *his* master. If then I am the Father, Where *is* My honor? And if I *am* a Master, Where *is* My reverence? Says the LORD of hosts To you priests who despise My name. Yet you say, 'In what way have we despised Your name?' ⁷ "*You* offer defiled food on My altar. But say, 'In what way have we defiled You?' By saying, 'The table of the LORD is contemptible.'

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Malachi 1:6-14 (NKJV)

⁸ And when you offer the blind as a sacrifice, *Is it not evil?* And when you offer the lame and sick, *Is it not evil?* Offer it then to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you favorably?" Says the LORD of hosts. ⁹ "But now entreat God's favor, That He may be gracious to us. *While* this is being *done* by your hands, Will He accept you favorably?" Says the LORD of hosts.

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Malachi 1:6-14 (NKJV)

¹⁰ "Who *is there* even among you who would shut the doors, So that you would not kindle fire *on* My altar in vain? I have no pleasure in you," Says the LORD of hosts, "Nor will I accept an offering from your hands. ¹¹ For from the rising of the sun, even to its going down, My name *shall be* great among the Gentiles; In every place incense *shall be* offered to My name, And a pure offering; For My name shall be great among the nations," Says the LORD of hosts.

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Malachi 1:6-14 (NKJV)

¹² "But you profane it, In that you say, 'The table of the LORD is defiled; And its fruit, its food, *is* contemptible.' ¹³ You also say, 'Oh, what a weariness!' And you sneer at it," Says the LORD of hosts. "And you bring the stolen, the lame, and the sick; Thus you bring an offering! Should I accept this from your hand?" Says the LORD.

"Give of Your Best To The Master"

Malachi 1:6-14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ "But cursed *be* the deceiver Who has in his flock a male, And takes a vow, But sacrifices to the Lord what is blemished-- For I *am* a great King," Says the LORD of hosts, "And My name *is to be* feared among the nations.

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Malachi 3:8-10 (NKJV)

⁸ "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. ⁹ You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, *Even* this whole nation. ¹⁰ Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you *such* blessing That *there will* not *be room* enough to receive it.

"Give of Your Best To The Master"

2 Samuel 24:24-25 (NKJV)

²⁴ Then the king said to Araunah, "No, but I will surely buy *it* from you for a price; nor will I offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God with that which costs me nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver. ²⁵ And David built there an altar to the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. So the LORD heeded the prayers for the land, and the plague was withdrawn from Israel.

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Mark 12:41–44 (NKJV)

⁴¹ Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put money into the treasury. And many *who were* rich put in much. ⁴² Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans. ⁴³ So He called His disciples to *Himself* and said to them,
“Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; ⁴⁴ for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood.”

*"Give of your Best
To The Master"*

We Fail To Give God Our Best



- ✦ When we give Him what is left
- ✦ When we give Him what we don't want –
- ✦ When we give Him that which cost us nothing –
- ✦ When we refuse to sacrifice.

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Examples of Giving Our Best . . .



- ◆ **The Poor Widow – (Mark 12:41–44)**
- ◆ **Mary Anointing Jesus – (John 12:1–9)**
- ◆ **The Macedonians – (2 Cor 8:1–5)**
- ◆ **Paul's life – (2 Tim 4:6–8)**
- ◆ **Jesus Gave His Best – (*Left heaven – Obeyed the Father – Gave His life - Phil. 2:5-10; Mat 26:39; Heb 5:8,9*)**

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God Gets Our Best When . . .



- ◆ Put the Lord & His kingdom first (Matt. 6:33; Mark 12:29–31)
- ◆ Give ourselves willingly & wholly to the Lord (2 Cor. 8:12; Rom 6:13–22)
- ◆ Keep ourselves holy (1 Cor 6:19,20; 2 Cor. 7:14–7:1; 1 Pet 1:13–20)
- ◆ Demonstrate appreciation for the priceless (1 Pet 1:18–21; Rom 6:3–21; 12:1,2; 2 Cor 5:14,15; 8:5)

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God Gets Our Best When . . .



- ◆ When we love Him MOST – Mk 12:29–31
- ◆ Godly as husbands or wives – Eph 5:22–33; 1 Cor. 7:2–11; 1 Pet 3:1–7
- ◆ Godly as children & parents – Eph 6:1–4; Deut 6:7
- ◆ We serve others – Luke 10:25–37
- ◆ We are godly on the job – Col 3:22–24
- ◆ We use our time for Him – (worship; teach; serve) – Eph 5:15,16; Acts 4:20

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Making Comparisons

(How does our worship & service to God compare to what we give to our work, secular meetings, & recreational activities - John 4:24; Luke 9:23-26)

- ◆ **Our facilities? – Haggai 1:4 – Less? Same? Best?**
- ◆ **Preparation? – Ezra 7:10 – Less? Same? Best?**
- ◆ **Clothing? – James 2:1–4 – Less? Same? Best?**
- ◆ **Punctuality? – Eph 5:16 – Less? Same? Best?**
- ◆ **Support? – Eph 4:16 – Less? Same? Best?**
- ◆ **Participation? – 1 Cor 12:12–28 – Less? Same? Best?**
- ◆ **Advancement? – Acts 8:4 – Less? Same? Best?**

"Give of Your Best To The Master"

Give of your best to the Master; Give of the strength of your youth.

Throw your soul's fresh, glowing ardor Into the battle for truth.

Jesus has set the example, Dauntless was He, young and brave.

Give Him your loyal devotion; Give Him the best that you have.



"Give of Your Best To The Master"

Give of your best to the Master; Give Him
first place in your heart.

Give Him first place in your service;
Consecrate every part.

Give, and to you will be given; God
His beloved Son gave.

Gratefully seeking to serve Him,
Give Him the best that you
have.



"Give of Your Best To The Master"

Give of your best to the Master; Naught else
is worthy His love.

He gave Himself for your ransom,
Gave up His glory above.

Laid down His life without murmur,
You from sin's ruin to save.

Give Him your heart's adoration;
Give Him the best that you
have.



"Give of Your Best To The Master"

Refrain

Give of your best to the
Master; Give of the strength
of your youth.

Clad in salvation's full armor,
Join in the battle for truth.



"Give of Your Best To The Master"

Romans 12:1-2 (NKJV)

¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service.

² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

"Give of Your Best To The Master"

1 Peter 4:1-2 (NKJV)

¹ Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, ² that he no longer should live the rest of *his* time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.

"Give of Your Best To The Master"

Charts by Don McClain

Prepared September 19-21, 2013 – Preached September 22, 2013

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