

*"For the LORD shall be thy confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken. Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it." Proverbs 3:26-27 KJV*

*"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and ALL these things shall be added unto you."* If I lack, God is either testing my faith or I am seeking my own ends and not God's. God's riches will flow through us to others if we seek God's favor and not our pleasure. Joy will be our state of existence and peace will be our state of mind! Believers should be channels, not reservoirs. We may take freely from the flow of provision which is sent through us. If a river flows through my land, I need no well: I may dip freely from its flow when needed. To dam up its flow is to rob others of its bounty. If I have more than I need, God intends I be a supplier of someone else's need. If we have more than needed, it is not to be hoarded or squandered, but we must seek the soul for whom it is intended. After all, giving is a Godly attribute. *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son."* Love is an action not a feeling. Just as *"the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance,"* your beneficence may be the cord that draws a soul to God or supplies a request of a faithful saint. We need not know the reason for our bounty, but we should be ever ready to allow it to flow to another. *"If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?"* Trust Father's promise to *"supply all your need according to His riches."* Even though we may see no possible avenue of resupply, if necessary, God can create our supply within our own cruse of oil and barrel of meal. Do we so soon forget the widows of Elijah's day? One, not only gave her last morsel away, but prepared it for another whilst her own belly growled with hunger. Another poured away all her debts from her own cruse of oil. By these acts alone we know them to be Godly women. Obedience to God in the face of their own wants manifested faith and trust in God. While others may see us as needy, we rest securely in God's promise. *"I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread."* Your gift may be the bridge between heaven and hell for some poor lost soul. You may not have much, but your willingness to give lets *"your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven."* One of the earmarks of the righteous is; *"He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed is blessed."* Jesus put it another way for His Church; *"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."* If you don't need it right now, it is probably for another. Father knows your need *"before you ask."*



Withhold not good from those it's due,  
God tests to see if your heart's true,  
For if you goodly things accrue,  
The Lord will give no more to you. ~CGP

God lets us suffer lack to test our faith; to see if we are just giving it lip service. George Mueller set the table and called all the orphans to it for supper without a bit of food in the pantry. He bowed his head and gave thanks for what they were about to receive. As he finished praying, there was a knock at the door. Food was abundantly supplied by a local grocer for Father knew their need and supplied it right on time!

*"What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." James 2:14-17 KJV*