

Are You A Giver, Or A Taker?

MH

“...freely ye have received, freely give”, Matthew 10:8.

Being a giver demonstrates God's Love in you, and that you care for others by giving it out.

A givers is continually watching out for those who truly need help.

Takers generally suffer from a back problem, they keep coming back to see how much more they can take.

Takers also suffer a blindness, they can never see – and step up to do something about it – the needs of others.

Takers also suffer from tunnel vision, they can only ever see their own 'needs'.

God also established the need for giving very early in His manual for mankind.

It states, in the fifteenth and seventeenth verses of the first chapter, “And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to GIVE light upon the earth: and it was so.

And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also.

And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to GIVE light upon the earth”.

And God is still giving us light.

Just two chapters further on, Genesis 3:1–6, we have the first illustration of the taker.

Satan used a vehicle from the animal kingdom to convey his temptation for Adam and Eve to sin.

Eve, at the serpent instigation and urging seized the fruit, becoming the taker.

Adam became a taker by taking the fruit from Eve.

From there on, as with all takers, it was a downhill run. They tried to make a covering for the sin. They tried to hide from God

They were both removed from the Garden and the Lord's immediate presence.

If we now move forward another 2000 years, not much has changed.

I was in an area running a house church, where, if we had an open meeting, a particular lady would bring her whole family.

For a study or prayer meeting, the lady would always be by herself. Arriving for an open meeting, she was accompanied by the entire family for 'fellowship'.

The next time the group saw that family together was at the next open meeting.

They, like so many others down the ages, were takers. They, like Adam and Eve had to live a life that remained outside God's Presence.

Looking again at the first sentence of this article, 'Being a giver shows that God's Love is in you, and you care for others by giving it out', we are swiftly taken to a command of Jesus to the members of His Church on this earth.

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid",
Matthew 5:14

What did Jesus expect us to do as lights in this world? He expects us to be switched on, that we GIVE a light to those who are in the world of darkness.

Is the light in your life still on? Can it be seen by those around you? Or has the bulb fused, and the light stopped giving any illumination?

Takers are seldom completely happy, where enough is never enough, and always checking to see if the other person has more than they do.

Are you, a giver or a taker? It has to be your choice.