What goes around, comes around.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive."

In which NT book are these words recorded?

Who quoted these words?

Who spoke these words?

And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

Statement is found in Acts 20:35

Quoted by Paul

Spoken by the Lord Jesus

What form of giving is Jesus referring?

How did Paul express this giving in Acts 20: 32-35?

Paul's message to the Ephesian elders at his departure.

³² "So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

Acts 20: 32

³³ I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴ Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me.

Acts 20: 33-34

³⁵ I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Acts 20: 35

What does "giving" require?

A proper attitude and mindset.

¹⁴ Do all things without complaining and disputing, ¹⁵ that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

Philippians 2: 14-15

A giver and a receiver.

How is giving better than receiving?

Is receiving a bad thing?

Now it happened, as He (Jesus) went into the house of <u>one of the rulers of the Pharisees</u> to eat bread on the Sabbath, that they watched Him closely. ...

Luke 14: 1

Then He also said to him who invited Him, "When you give a dinner or a supper, do not ask your friends, your brothers, your relatives, nor rich neighbors, lest they also invite you back, and you be repaid.

Luke 14: 12

¹³ But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind. 14 And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

Luke 14: 13-14

Who are the two greatest examples of "giving" known to man?

God

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.'

John 3: 16-17

Jesus

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that you through his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8: 9

¹⁹ "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, ... ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, ... ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6: 19-21

It's our HEART that matters.

It's our HEART that determines what, when and how we give.

Jesus called the scribes and Pharisees hypocrites when quoting from Isaiah.

These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'

Matthew 15: 8-9

Our HEART determines our mindset.

Are we seeking praise from others?

Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

Matthew 6: 2

But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.

Matthew 6: 3-4

Our HEART determines our mindset.

Are we seeking something in return?

32 "But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ...

Luke 6: 32-33

³⁴ And if you lend *to those* from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. ...

Luke 6: 34

35 But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. ³⁶ Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

Luke 6: 35-36

Are we only providing lip service to those in need?

15 If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?

James 2: 15-16

Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with *his* hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.

Ephesians 4: 28

Are we reflecting God's nature when we give?

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.

Romans 12: 1

Do we truly believe that we will reap what we sow?

⁷ Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

Galatians 6: 7

⁶ But this *I say:* He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver....

2 Corinthians 9: 6-7

⁸ And <u>God is able</u> to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, <u>may have an</u> abundance for every good work.

2 Corinthians 9: 8

Does our life reflect a true hope and faith in God?

²⁵ I have been young, and *now* am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, nor His descendants begging bread. 26 **He** is ever merciful, and lends; and His descendants are blessed.

Psalm 37: 25-26

Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

Matthew 6: 25

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Matthew 6: 33

Are we thankful to the Father for our blessings? Do we tell Him in prayers?

¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

James 1: 16-17

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

Ephesians 1: 3

Are we using our talents and possessions to glorify God?

For you were bought at a price; therefore, **glorify God** in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Corinthians 6: 20

For what profit is it to a man <u>if he</u> gains the whole world, and <u>loses</u> his own soul? Or what will a man give <u>in exchange for his soul</u>?

Matthew 16: 26

So, let us ...

Recognize our Blessings

Recognize our Blessings

Sow Godly Seeds

Recognize our Blessings

Sow Godly Seeds

Reap Eternal Life

⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4: 6-7

And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Colossians 3: 17