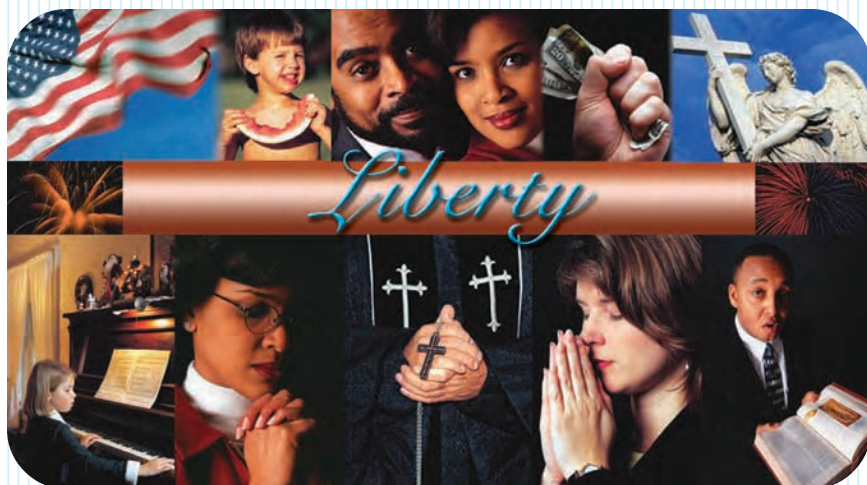


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Galatians 5:1 (KJV) Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

Galatians 5:13-14 (KJV) For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

PREFACE

Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it.

- Proverbs 3:27 (KJV)



Our societal existence, standard of living and survival hinges upon two equally important, yet basic acts: 1. asking and 2. giving. Just as it is a person's responsibility to ask for help when in need, there is an equal responsibility of the one asked to give the needed resource to the qualified request...if possible. It is through this act of obedience that we please God and serve as His thermostat to both affect and measure our social climate in regards to the coldness (failure) or warmth (success) of our humanity and common exchange in our households, community, state and country. So, whenever you are able and the power is in your hands, do good and give to those who both need and request your help. After all, God has allowed, given and supplied you – *Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.*

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: for every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him? Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets. - Matthew 7:7-12 (KJV)

But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. - I John 3:17-18 (KJV)

...And every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. - 1 Corinthians 3:8-9 (KJV)

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil. - Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 (KJV)

Do not fear to give! Be not afraid of sharing in any capacity. Giving and sharing, although important parts, are only portions of our duty. Our whole duty is to fear (love and revere) God and keep His commandments. God holds us accountable for all deeds we commit or even omit...especially when prior instruction or knowledge has been given. Great maturity is exemplified of those who adhere. Those who practice a lifestyle of perfected giving (willfully with a glad heart) receive residual rewards of often-exponential proportions that transcend even unto their children's children. There are experiences of growth in faith, passing along inspiration, renewal of hope, sharing of joy, simple pleasures of evoking smiles and euphoria.

We must not live our lives in the spirit of greed and selfishness, nor operate in fear. Rather, we should live life balanced and maturely. We should clearly and precisely know when our individual or family needs are truly met and where abundance in our lives begins. We are all where we are and have what we have today because of someone else's benevolence, love, moderation and/or sacrifice. No one person has given birth to him or herself, nor created totally autonomous success. We must dwell together in the spirit of love, be moved with compassion, learn to share and respond with urgency in order to successfully survive. Benevolently speaking, we must think less and give more with immediacy having a sense of passion, purpose and urgency.

And moreover, because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yea, he gave good heed, and sought out, and set in order many proverbs. The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and that which was written was upright, even words of truth. The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies, which are given from one shepherd. And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh.
- **Ecclesiastes 12:9-12 (KJV)**

God has given us *Life*, granted *Liberty* and allowed each a personal *Pursuit of Happiness*. Therefore, I am admonished and compelled as a 'master of assembly' commissioned by our 'one Shepherd' to dispense and drive my 'nails' of acceptable, upright, true words of wisdom into many book formats of various styles. I praise God and give Him glory for endowing me with and allowing me to recognize abundance in many areas: compassion, family, friends, health, knowledge, love, wisdom and especially understanding. Some of which I now share with you through this publication – words of comfort, confirmation, edification, imagination, joy, love, pain and romance through inspired passages and poems.

Nothing Good Withheld...[™] has treasures of a peculiar prose and its doggerel is inundated with syncopated rhythms and varied themes found in experiencing and living life. I pray that you enjoy its reading and glean all that is good, as I now withhold nothing.

A LABORER'S CRY

† How am I, a known and practiced person of God who simply desires some sense of security, supposed to feel while living and dealing with people who possess and/or have access to needed resources, and yet are constantly threatening or actually carrying out their retraction of the resource with no consideration given to me nor the mutually beneficial relationship that has been established between us?

† How am I supposed to be held to a level of constant perfection by those who know and yet see on a daily basis the relentless attacks, dire dilemmas and plaguing challenges that I have been faced with at the hands of the seemingly ever-present spiritual enemy...not because of any one mal deed done, but more simply because of who I am and have become through Christ?

† How am I to use my varied talents and gifts of God, which, by the way, have been perfected, found fit for the Great Master's use and meant for edifying, rallying and unifying the Saints for Kingdom building, when they only seem to flare up envy, provoke jealousy, spark wrath and stir up strife in people...even those calling on God's name, whom I'm trying to help?

SHIPS

Splashing past oceanic perils and out-steering havocs of high seas.
Harboring at times priceless cargo in its spacious hulls.
Intriguing land lovers by its peerless navigational ease.
Pleasuring captains and seafarers with craftsmanship that never dulls.
Sailing countless hearts of nautical imagination...borne of hewn trees.

Nothing Good Withheld - Liberty

AUTHOR'S NOTE

This booklet is one that every woman, man, young lady or lad wants for self or as a special gift to a business associate, classmate, family/fraternity/sorority member, friend, loved one, pastor, spouse or teacher. It is first of three volumes in series one of Nothing Good Withheld, which I believe you to adore and appreciate. You will be blessed repeatedly by its fresh content, concise context, cutting-edge approach and innovative exploration of coping and understanding issues and situations faced in life...all while gently guiding your thoughts back to the Holy Bible for any "how-to", "where-to" or "why" moments, yet with a more life-applicable, spiritually-seeking, ready-to-apply approach.



I pray that you have abundant *Life* and find true *Liberty* as you passionately pursue your personal *Happiness*. As been substantiated, behind any defeated person there can be found a frustrated love; therefore, share love, do right by love and respect those who love you. Become enamored with your life and a special someone worthy of making and recalling many good memories.

Avoid negative people. Give no allowance to those who operate in false entitlements and think that they can lay claim to you, your inheritance, personal property, time and/or talents. Nothing is for the taking, but everything can be given or shared. Every one of us has the freedom and inalienable right to voice our choice. God has not withheld anything good from us, nor should we to anyone deserving!

"Why Not Do Good?"

- Why Others feel better about their situation*
- Why You prosper as your soul prospers*
- Why You feel good about yourself*
- Why You reap what you sow*
- Why Others benefit*
- Why You benefit*
- Why You please God*

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