

A Matter of Trust

October 08, 2022

NARRATION

GRAPHICS AND CLIPS

CN. **01**

Why should the church be the recipient of our tithe, offerings, and donations, with which we worship God?

Images related to the text and animation.

CN. **02**

As a community of believers, the church was founded by Jesus (**Matt. 16:18**). He “gave himself up for her” (**Eph. 5:25**). He is the Head and Chief Cornerstone of the Church (**Eph. 1:22; 2:20**), which is His body (**Col. 1:18**).

Images related to the text and animation.

CN. **03**

He gave her a special assignment—“to serve as the pillar and foundation of the truth” (**1 Tim. 3:15**). He also said to His disciples that they should “go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” (**Matt. 28:19, 20**).

Images related to the text and animation.

CN. **04**

Obviously, this assignment would require collaborative and organized work, which is only possible when there are common plans, trust, and mutual submission. When by the practice of the Storehouse principle funds are brought together, God’s missionary work may move stronger, faster, and go farther.

Images related to the text and animation.

CN. **05**

But the church is not without flaws; it has never been. Nevertheless, as the “bride of the Lord” (**Rev. 19:7, 8**), she is supremely loved and cared for by Him. Failure to understand the full extension and depth of God’s love for His flawed wife, the church, may prevent husbands from giving their wives that same kind of love (**Eph. 5:25**). Because He loves His wife so much, any work or word against her is taken by Him as done to Himself, to His body.

Images related to the text and animation.

NARRATION

CN. 06

Ellen G. White says that “enfeebled and defective as it may appear, the church is the one object upon which God bestows in a special sense His supreme regard. It is the theater of His grace, in which He delights to reveal His power to transform hearts.”—*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 12.

CN. 07

In response to God’s love for His Church, the believers of the early church supported both the local church community (*Acts 2:45*) and church communities far away. Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and the ends of the earth (*Acts 1:8*), were specified by Jesus as the church’s missionary targets—a clear indication that the work of the church must be equally supported locally, regionally, and internationally, not only by prayer and work, but also through our finances.

CN. 08

And the early believers did it. Following a severe famine throughout the Roman empire, Luke reports that “the disciples, as each one was able, decided to provide help for the brothers and sisters living in Judea” (*Acts 11:29*). Paul also regularly appeals for the collection of funds for the church, the Lord’s people, in Jerusalem (*1 Cor. 16:1-4*; *2 Cor. 8:1—9:15*; *Rom. 15:14-32*). Additionally, there is clear evidence of believers supporting with wages those “whose work is preaching and teaching” (*1 Tim. 5:17, 18*). Paul endorses such practice by quoting Jesus: “The worker deserves his wages” (*Luke 10:7*). The early church believers applied the general principle of love and generosity by caring for God’s church.

CN. 09

As we worship with our Tithe and Promise, let’s emulate the early church believers, who responded to the call to love and support the ones whom Jesus loves. May we put our desires last, and God first.

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