Chapter 9

Relevant Biblical Passages

By Lilya Wagner

The Scriptures have many relevant passages for those involved in capital campaigns. We share with you a limited selection of passages that will help you focus on the spiritual nature of such campaigns. Fundraising is a spiritual function of the church, and if you study these and other passages, you will be blessed.

The Israelites did as Moses instructed and asked the Egyptians for articles of silver and gold and for clothing. The LORD had made the Egyptians favorably disposed toward the people, and they gave them what they asked for; so they plundered the Egyptians (Exodus 12:35, 36, NIV).

When Hiram king of Tyre heard that Solomon had been anointed king to succeed his father David ... the craftsmen of Solomon and Hiram and the men of Gebal cut and prepared the timber and stone for the building of the temple (1 Kings 5, NIV; see the Bible for entire chapter).

Then King David said to the whole assembly: “My son Solomon, the one whom God has chosen, is young and inexperienced. The task is great, because this palatial structure is not for man but for the LORD God. With all my resources I have provided for the temple of my God—gold for the gold work, silver for the silver, bronze for the bronze, iron for the iron and wood for the wood, as well as onyx for the settings, turquoise, stones of various colors, and all kinds of fine stone and marble—all of these in large quantities. Besides, in my devotion to the temple of my God I now give my personal treasures of gold and silver for the temple of my God, over and above everything I have provided for this holy temple: three thousand talents of gold (gold of Ophir) and seven thousand talents of refined silver, for the overlaying of the walls of the buildings, for the gold work and the silver work, and for all the work to be done by the craftsmen. Now, who is willing to consecrate himself today to the LORD?”

Then the leaders of families, the officers of the tribes of Israel, the commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds, and the officials in charge of the king’s work gave willingly. They gave toward the work on the temple of God five thousand talents and ten thousand darics of gold, ten thousand talents of silver, eighteen thousand talents of bronze and a hundred thousand talents of iron. Any who had precious stones gave them to the treasury of the temple of the LORD in the custody of Jehiel the Gershonite. The people rejoiced at the willing response of their leaders, for they had given freely and wholeheartedly to the LORD. David the king also rejoiced greatly. . . . “I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these things have I given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you” (1 Chronicles 29:1–17, NIV)
The men of Israel and Judah who lived in the towns of Judah also brought a tithe of their herds and flocks and a tithe of the holy things dedicated to the LORD their God, and they piled them in heaps. They began doing this in the third month and finished in the seventh month. When Hezekiah and his officials came and saw the heaps, they praised the LORD and blessed his people Israel. Hezekiah asked the priests and Levites about the heaps; and Azariah the chief priest, from the family of Zadok, answered, "Since the people began to bring their contributions to the temple of the LORD, we have had enough to eat and plenty to spare, because the LORD has blessed his people, and this great amount is left over" (2 Chronicles 31:6–10, NIV).

In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes ... “We his servants will start rebuilding” (Nehemiah 2, NIV; see the Bible for entire chapter).

Good will come to him who is generous (Psalm 112:5, NIV).

He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour (Psalm 112:9, KJV).

Do not hold back anything good from those who are entitled to it when you have the power to do so (Proverbs 3:27, GW).¹

Some people give much but get back even more. Others don't give what they should and end up poor. Whoever gives to others will get richer; those who help others will themselves be helped (Proverbs 11:24, 25, NCV).²

When you help the poor you are lending to the Lord (Proverbs 19:17, TLB).³

If you give to the poor, your needs will be supplied! But a curse upon those who close their eyes to poverty (Proverbs 28:27, TLB).

“You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing Me, the whole nation of you! Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this,” says the LORD of hosts, “if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows” (Malachi 3:9, 10, NASB).⁴

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal” (Matthew 6:19, 20, NIV).

“Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, and running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back” (Luke 6:38, NLT).⁵

“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. I have coveted no one’s silver or gold or apparel. Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. 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 20:32–35, NKJV).

Since you excel in so many ways—in your faith, your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love from us—I want you to excel also in this gracious act of giving. I am not commanding you to do this. But I am testing how genuine your love is by comparing it with the eagerness of the other churches (2 Corinthians 8:7, 8, NLT),

Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and should give happily to those in need, always being ready to share with others whatever God has given them. By doing this they will be storing up real treasure for themselves in heaven—it is the only safe investment for eternity! And they will be living a fruitful Christian life down here as well (1 Timothy 6:18, 19, TLB).

The Christian ... is the one who takes care of orphans and widows, and who remains true to the Lord (James 1:27, TLB).

Most of all, love each other as if your life depended on it. Love makes up for practically anything. Be quick to give a meal to the hungry, a bed to the homeless—cheerfully. Be generous with the different things God gave you, passing them around so all get in on it (1 Peter 4:8-10, The Message).6

6Scriptures marked GW are quoted from GOD’S WORD. GOD’S WORD is a copyrighted work of God’s Word to the Nations. Quotations are used by permission. Copyright 1995 by God’s Word to the Nations. All rights reserved.
6Scriptures marked TLB are quoted from Scriptures quoted from TLB are from The Living Bible, copyright © 1971 by Tyndale House Publishers, Wheaton, IL. Used by permission.