

# Charity B.S.I. *The Best Survival Investment*

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***“A wise son will make a happy father,  
and a foolish son will make his mother grieve.  
The treasures of the wicked will not work for them,  
and charity saves from death!  
God will not allow the soul of the righteous to be famished,  
and the desire of the wicked is cast away.”***

Proverbs 10:1-3

In hard times, the hardest thing to do is to remain charitable. When finances become limited, we often forget that it is not only ourselves who are having a hard time, but so is our family, our friends and our neighbors. Regardless of how bad things may be for us, it will not take long to find those who are much more unfortunate than we.

***The test of righteousness is never about what we believe,  
it is always about what we do.***

It is no coincidence that the Hebrew word for charity is basically the same word for righteousness. Tzedaka is charity and tzedaka is righteousness. The meaning of this is simple. In “God’s Eye” it is righteous to supply charity. And I might add, that the opposite is also true, to withhold or deny charity is considered in God’s Eyes as tantamount to wicked, evil behavior.

Today, in hard times, the great excuse is, “I don’t have enough to give,” or “I don’t even have enough for myself and my family.” All these excuses may very well be true, nevertheless in the Eye of God, they are nothing more than mere empty words!

We all have problems. We all have shortages. Many of us do not know where the funds will come from today to pay the bills that are due tomorrow. Many indeed wake up in the morning not knowing where the monies will come from to put food on the table for that very day.

And we complain about paying our high private school tuitions, credit card bills, car payments and house payments! Granted, all those are important and must be addressed. Still, at least we have these things. Many do not have even that much.

Now, charity is not now, nor has it ever been meant to be a redistribution of wealth. Charity is not give from the rich to the poor so that the poor become rich and the rich become poor.

This is not charity, this is not righteousness. Indeed, this is madness and foolishness. Indeed, when a government taxes one segment of the population to provide free entitlements for another, this may indeed be institutionalized theft, a violation of the Ten Commandments and many other laws.

Public welfare is not now nor has it ever been the answer to individual needs. Loving your neighbor is not a government job, it is the obligation of each and every one of us righteous human beings.

Public welfare is in the hands of the public, not the government. This is a clear Biblical message.

When I am in need I turn to you, not Uncle Sam! When I turn to you and in turn you turn to me, we support one another. When we do this, God smiles upon us. This is what Proverbs meant when it said that "a wise son makes a happy father," in this case, our Father in Heaven.

When I turn to you for support and instead of reaching out to me you turn your back, offering nothing, this is an offense against nature itself. It violates righteousness and it denies charity. One who acts like this in this one case, will clearly act like this in many other instances. By acting such, such a miser thinks that he supports himself, but instead he hurts himself and eventually undermines his own foundation. Again, this is what Proverbs referred to when it said, "a foolish son makes his mother grieve."

Those who do not give charity exhibit a serious character flaw which will come back to haunt them. Those who do not give do not receive. True, there are the mega-rich who revel in their financial success and look with scorn at the "little people" less fortunate than themselves. Some how and in some way there is justice in this universe and those who laud their wealth over others will in the end suffer because of it.

"The treasures of the wicked will not work for them." There will come a time when the wealthy will realize that they are in need of something that money cannot buy. On that day, God looks down upon them and judges. If indeed the faith of the rich has been in their money, then God allows them to face their crises relying upon their money.

If however, the rich are righteous and thus charitable, at the moment of need God looks down upon them and showers them with His Grace, that which money cannot buy! This is what the Proverb means when it says that, "charity saves from death."

God looks after His own. Now, it is true, that in order for us to be righteous before God, we cannot rely entirely upon the gracious giving of others. Each of us must work and do whatever it is that we can to provide for ourselves with the great bounty inherent in nature and there for us to partake.

This relationship is beautiful. We do what we can and God does what we cannot! And each of us serves as the hand of God when we fulfill our moral obligations to provide for others, with however much or little we have to give.

Everyone is obligated to provide charity. Ten percent of our earnings is the standard practice. Some may give more, but none should give less. When we give and provide, we will find that in turn we ourselves receive and are provided for. It is a cyclical relationship. It is inherent in nature. It is what God has created and has meant to be.

Therefore, when you begin each day, pause for a moment and give thanks to God for all the good you have right now. Then commit yourself to set aside a portion of today's earnings to provide for others, thus making yourself to be the Hand of God. In one way or another, as you give, you will get! For just as you commit today to give to another, someone out there has in mind to give to you.

God puts into the thoughts of business people and regular people alike who to interact with. Your new client is sent to you by none other than God. Thank Him for the business and express your appreciation by serving as God's Hand and give a portion of what God has given you to someone else in need.

Whatever hard times do or do not come, charity is the way of the world. Charity is righteousness and charity is a life saver! Charity is a better investment than gold and silver. Charity can bestow upon you the Grace of God in your hour of need. No gold or silver, bullets or beans can ever provide that!

So, give! That's it! Donate! Provide! Help! Be there! And as you are there for me, I am there for you, and God is here for us all! "Give thanks to God for He is good, for His mercy endures forever."