

increase."—What is this but saying, Honour Him as He hath prospered you! Do this faithfully—as faithfully as you pay your debts. This is a debt: Pay it! Let not this word fall from the mouth of God concerning you, "Ye have robbed Me!"—robbed Me "in tithes and offerings!" Do it on system: as systematically as you keep your account books in bank or warehouse. May God help you to do it! May He help us all to understand the "grace" of giving, and to practice it! Be assured that as in husbandry, so also in this matter of the stewardship of our possessions, "There is that scattereth and yet increaseth; there is that withholdeth more than is meet, and it tendeth to poverty." Often have I observed the truth of these two principles of action, with their following results, illustrated in the experience of mankind. I have met with men who have sown comparatively nothing for God, who have kept their abundance hoarded and unused, save for their own gratification; and they have reaped neither pleasure nor gain. On the other hand, I have seen and known men who have scattered their acquisitions with profuse hand for the relief of the needy and the lost, and it seemed as if the more they gave, the more they were prospered. "He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully: Every man as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver."