

CONTENT WITH THE LORD'S GIFTS

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Children, you probably know that in heaven there is no need for money. Why don't they need money there? Well, if you think of the things we need money for on earth, you will realize why. We need money to buy food, clothes, houses, furniture, blankets, toys, and things. If we don't have money, we can't buy these things.

But in heaven you don't need money, because you don't have to buy these things at all. In heaven the Lord gives everyone the food, clothing, houses and everything else, free. They don't have to buy them. They find that when they need to eat, the Lord will have food ready for them. When they need new clothes, then those clothes are waiting for them, for the Lord is so generous that He always gives them what they need.

Of course, not everyone gets the same. There are princes in heaven, who do special, important work, and they get given more than others, because of the special work they do. They would live in big houses, even in palaces, and have very good clothes and special food, and so on. Then ordinary people would have ordinary sized houses, and ordinary, but very delicious food; and simple people, whose work was very simple, would have simple things. But—and this is the wonderful thing about heaven—everyone would be happy with what they had. The simple person wouldn't look at someone whose food, clothes and house is better than theirs and say, "It's not fair: why can't I have those things? I want more than I've got." He would look at such a person, and say to himself, "What that person has is nice, but I'm happier with what I've got." Everyone in heaven is like this – they're happy with what they've got.

And why are they happy? Why is everyone there happy? Because they all know that they've got what the Lord has given them, and they know that the Lord gives them all the things they need to be happy. They know that it is the Lord's heaven they live in, and they are happy with what He thinks is good for them.

Sometimes we forget that this world is the Lord's too. It is. He made it, with all things in it. He made your hands, and faces, and bodies. He made all the things around you. It's His world not ours. And we sometimes forget that He rules this world, just like He rules heaven. Because He is so wise and clever, He can look down on each one of us, and see what is good for us, and lead each one of us in the best way.

You see, the Lord sees to it that each of the angels in heaven is happy, and has all the things he needs. The Lord is trying to see to it that each of us is happy

too and that we have all the things we really need. It's His world, and He rules it, and He gives to all people enough things for them to be happy.

We ought to remember this, so that we will be happy with the things that He gives us. Here on earth we do need money, and we have to work hard, and try as hard as we can to do well. When we do well, then we will probably earn more money, and be able to buy more things. But not everyone can be really rich. Some people will become rich, and some will not.

What is really important is that the Lord will let us have enough to be happy. If we work hard and do not become rich, it is because the Lord knows that we have enough to do the things that we need to do; and if someone else works hard and does become rich, it is because the Lord sees that their money will help them in the work that they are going to do. So each one of us ought to be happy with what he's got, just like the angels are, because he knows that it is the Lord's world, and He gives us enough for our needs.

If we don't feel this way, if we feel that it's not fair that others have more than we, then we're going to become greedy and unhappy, and will probably try to get money by wrong ways. There are lots of people who do this—who don't trust the Lord, and decide that they will get more money through being dishonest, through lying, through cheating, through being nasty to other people. They may become rich on earth, but in the other world they will become very poor, for in hell there are very little riches.

So the simple lesson we must remember is that this world is the Lord's kingdom, just like heaven is, and the Lord who loves us all is striving to give us all the things that we need, to make us really happy. If we can learn to be happy and content with whatever He gives us, whether it is a lot or a little, then we are really preparing ourselves for heaven, for there He gives the angels, every least moment, just as much as they need, and no more. If we can learn to feel happy with what He gives us on earth, then we will be ready to enter into heaven.
Amen.