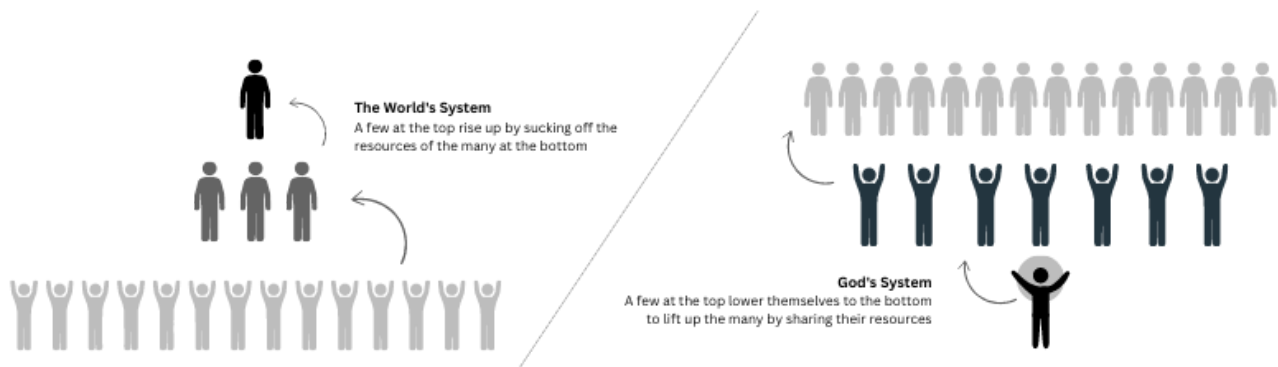


Counting the Cost

Sacrifice: an act of giving up something valued for the sake of something else regarded as more important or worthy.

- Just because something is **free to me** it doesn't mean that it is actually **free** and if I am not paying the actual cost then someone or something else is.
- The cost of our rebellion against God should have cost us our lives. Jesus paid that price for us. So we could receive the 'free' gift of salvation.

Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.



You are writing checks that withdraw from God's bank account so - **Pour Don't Hoard!**

If you want to save your life don't store it up or save it away, pour it out to the Lord.

Give generously, give without fear, give without expecting anything in return. Give because He gave.

A blank check form with the following fields and text:

- Top right: 1025
- DATE _____
- PAY TO THE ORDER OF _____ \$ _____
- _____ DOLLARS Security Features Included. Details on Back.
- MEMO _____
- Bottom left: 1025

Fill out your check committing to him the thing you don't want to. Commit to Him the thing that costs you something. Commit to getting your hands dirty.

Or be really brave and keep it blank... give back to God the life he has given you... A Life for a Life

Further Study

References:

Isaiah 64:6 "...our righteous deeds are like filthy rags..."

Philippians 2:17 "But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you.

Leviticus 1 Instructions on burnt offerings

Leviticus 14 Sacrifice to be cleansed

Drink offering : Exodus 29:40, Numbers 15:5, Number 28-29, Isaiah 57:6, Jeremiah 7:18, Ezekiel 20, 2 Timothy 4:6, Lamentations 2:19, Romans 5:5, Luke 22:20

John 12:1-8 Jesus anointed with oil

Luke 14:26-28 Count the Cost

Luke 9:24 " ...whoever loses his life for my sake will save it"

Matthew 25:14-30 The Parable of the talents - pour, don't hoard

What we gain:

Matthew 10:42 – And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward. -Jesus

Acts 20:35 – In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus himself said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

-Paul

- ❖ You gain **Communion with Jesus** by sharing in his cup
- ❖ You gain a **Foretaste of Heaven** experiencing glimpses of the kingdom to come
- ❖ You gain **Contentment and Freedom Scarcity** by trusting in His sufficiency and provision
- ❖ You gain a **Legacy of Impact** by sharing your resources to lift others up
- ❖ You gain **Purpose and a Position** in God's plan by taking up your responsibilities as part of God's family
- ❖ You gain **Eternal Perspective**, shifting your focus from temporary to eternal matters
- ❖ You gain **Forgiveness and Cleansing** by bringing your sacrifice on the altar
- ❖ You gain an **Intimacy and Connection** with God that can only be obtained through obedience
- ❖ You gain a **Heart of Gratitude** by acknowledging the actual cost of the free gifts you have received
- ❖ You gain a **Spirit of Humility** by laying down the rights to gifts you have earned or worked for
- ❖ You gain by **Better Understanding** of Jesus' sacrifice by getting your hands dirty and putting some skin in the game