

JOHN
AVANZINI

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PRINCIPLES OF INCREASE

SEVEN
UNFAILING STEPS
TO INCREASE

Seven Unfailing Steps to Increase

by
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Seven Unfailing Steps to Increase

Giving Releases Power in Your Life

When you give to God, your gift allows God the opportunity to bless you, to keep His promises, and to give you more than enough. By your faithful obedience in giving your tithes and offerings, you set into motion God's principles of biblical economics. Your precious gifts unleash God's power in several areas of your life.

1. Your gift will prosper you. God promises that when you are a giver, your gift will increase and multiply.

A gift ... whithersoever it turneth, it prospereth.

Proverbs 17:8

2. Your gift will provide you a place in life, and will bring you before great (godly) men in society.

A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.

Proverbs 18:16

3. Your gift will bring you friends.

... every man is a friend to him that giveth gifts.

Proverbs 19:6

This does not advocate buying friends with your money. It simply means that your giving sets up a magnetism that draws others to you.

4. Your gift will stop anger.

A gift in secret pacifieth anger. . . .

Proverbs 21:14

Just for fun, try this when someone is angry with you. Send that person a secret gift and watch his anger calm down. Don't ask me how it works; I don't know. But it does work, for I have seen it do so again and again.

Do you understand what God intends to do to your life when you give? When you are a cheerful giver, God will bless you and give you back many blessings out of His abundance!

God cares about *you*, and He ministers to you in many areas when you unleash the biblical process of giving. Not only does He minister to you in the area of finances, He also ministers spiritually to you, and to those around you. Being a great giver produces a positive, cooperative atmosphere all around you!

Step 1—Give Expecting to Receive

God gave His greatest gift with full expectation of receiving something in return. He gave His precious Son, because He knew He would receive

sons and daughters.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

By understanding His actions, you can see that *giving is the first step* toward God's abundance in your life. You cannot achieve prosperity just by *knowing you must give*. You must actually do some giving, and expect to receive something in return.

I hope you have already planted a liberal field of money seed in the name of Jesus. Now expect to reap a money harvest from each and every seed you planted.

Remember, you reap what you sow. If you sow peach seeds, you will reap peaches. If you sow (give) money, you will reap a money harvest.

Be not deceived; God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Galatians 6:7

If you have believed God's Word and planted money seed, *keep on believing God's Word*. The Bible clearly states you will reap if you don't give up.

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint

not.

Galatians 6:9

Isn't that wonderful? You can give, expecting a harvest. While you are waiting for your first harvest, you can be planting even more money seed toward your second harvest. Think of it! You can have a perpetual harvest if you have faith for perpetual planting!

Remember, God's Word guarantees that you will reap what you sow. So give, expecting a return.

Be Willing to Receive

Acts 3:5 tells us the lame man at the gate called "Beautiful" was *expecting to receive something* from Peter and John before they brought him to his feet. Then he was healed, and he went away leaping and praising God.

Jesus must have walked by the man many times as he lay crippled at the gate. He had never received before, because he never expected to receive anything. However, when Peter and John came by, the man was "**... expecting to receive something of them,**" and he was healed. The only difference was his anticipation. Those who are expecting to receive something are the ones who will receive.

For example, have you ever heard of a farmer who planted his precious seed and didn't expect a return? Of course not. Farmers expect to receive

something. *They are willing to receive* a harvest.

Jesus, our role model, was willing to receive. Once when He visited the home of a Pharisee, He allowed a woman to wash His feet with expensive ointment. When His host criticized the woman, Jesus said "**... thou gavest me no water for my feet ... but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment**" (Luke 7:44,46).

Jesus was a good receiver. Countless times in Scripture we see Him receive food, lodging, gifts, and even the use of a donkey. Jesus freely gave, but He also freely received.

When you are not willing to be a good receiver, you stop the abundant blessings God wants to flow into your life. Many times pride keeps us from receiving, but the Word gives us a strong warning about pride.

**Pride goeth before destruction, and
an haughty spirit before a fall.**

Proverbs 16:18

Do not let your false pride harden your mind and keep you from receiving from God or from others. When Jesus said it was more blessed to give than to receive, He didn't say we were not supposed to receive. Unless you begin to develop a receiving mentality, God cannot bring prosperity into your life.

Remember:

You must expect to receive. You must be willing to receive.

Pride and a hardened mind will restrict the flow of God's prosperity into your life.

Step 2—Bank on God's Promises

Every day we hear various commercial banks waging economic war with their competitors. They try to offer us something that will convince us to deposit our money in their bank. Some offer higher interest rates on savings accounts. Others offer checking accounts with no service charges. They sometimes even offer free gifts, just to lure us into investing our funds in their institution.

But God offers us the best banking program ever. Read the generous return He gives for your investments.

But remember this—if you give little, you will get little. A farmer who plants just a few seeds will get only a small crop, but if he plants much, he will reap much.

God is able to make it up to you by *giving you everything you need and more*, so that there will *not only be enough for your own needs, but plenty left over to give joyfully to others*.

It is as the Scriptures say: "The godly man gives generously to the poor. His good deeds will be an

honor to him forever."

For God, who gives seed to the farmer to plant, and later on, good crops to harvest and eat, *will give you more and more seed to plant and will make it grow so that you can give away more and more fruit from your harvest.*

Yes, God will give you much so that you can give away much....

2 Corinthians 9:6,8-11 TLB

Now that you are putting your money in God's bank, you can expect to receive God's promises which assure you of the provision of everything you need and more.

You literally cannot give away too much money when you give in the name of the Lord. Each time you give an offering, God will return it to you multiplied. Just as an earthly banker knows the world's secrets of abundance, you can literally *bank on God* and His promises. He will see that you have abundant treasures in heaven and on the earth, even more than enough!

Step 3—Choose Faith Over Fear

The only way the devil can stop you from receiving your God-ordained portion of wealth is by getting you to accept his lies about your ability to break through into abundance. He will try to make

you so afraid of failure, you will give up your newfound liberty in giving. Satan will desperately attempt to convince you that giving is foolish.

Don't be confused about the origin of fear; it does not come from God.

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of *power*, and of *love*, and of a *sound mind*.

2 Timothy 1:7

God does not want you to operate in fear, but in *power*. Remember, *God gives you power to get wealth!*

But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee *power to get wealth....*

Deuteronomy 8:18

God's way to counteract Satan's lies about your finances is to have you *walk in faith*. Faith and fear cannot operate together. Neither can faith and doubt. They work against each other and bring about instability and failure.

James tells us "**A doubleminded man is unstable in all his ways**" (James 1:8). Reject fear. Reject doubt. Use each step of faith as a way of destroying Satan's attempts to bring poverty into your life. Faith will always conquer fear.

Remember, as you become faithful in your

finances, you begin to draw a double reward to yourself.

1. You begin to prosper in the financial realm.
2. You position yourself to receive the true riches of God (spiritual power and authority).

If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?

Luke 16:11

You can now see that through your faith in God's promises, and your faithful stewardship walk, you will become like the workers in the temple who could be trusted with finances.

Howbeit there was no reckoning made with them of the money that was delivered into their hand, *because they dealt faithfully.*

2 Kings 22:7

Step 4—Tithe and Give Offerings

Hopefully by now you are faithfully tithing and giving offerings, because you know God expects it.

You are tithing to open the windows of heaven.

You are giving offerings so that God will pour out a blessing through the open windows, a blessing God will measure back to you with the same measure

you have used in giving to Him.

Tithing and giving offerings are necessary before you will make the major spiritual breakthrough you desire in your finances. Both of these actions trigger different sets of promises from God. Those promises come to you with God's strong desire to see them accomplished.

**For all the promises of God in him
are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory
of God by us.**

2 Corinthians 1:20

If you meet His conditions, God will deliver everything He has promised for your life. His promises, combined with your faithful giving, will become the basis for your financial prosperity.

Your tithes and offerings will release God's abundance into your life from His heavenly storehouse. So continue faithfully to tithe and give offerings to the Lord. *Stand in faith*, confidently expecting God's promises to be fulfilled in your life.

If you don't see a sudden increase in your income, don't let it change your plans. Even if you have to stay on a tight budget for awhile, don't let your circumstances make a difference in your giving. In time you will no longer live in a financial wilderness. Your desert will bloom like a beautiful garden.

It won't happen because I say so. It will happen

because the Word of God says so.

Step 5—Plant Your Seed to Glorify God

I hope the principles of biblical economics are firmly rooted in your mind and in your actions, because the Lord's method of increase comes against most of the world's thinking. The world teaches:

1. Get all you can. (Get every penny you can.)
2. Can all you get. (Save every penny you get.)
3. Sit on the can. (Never spend any of your money.)

In other words, the world leads you to get all the money you can and hold onto it. However, God has a different way.

There is [he] that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is [he] that withholdeth more than is meet [fitting], but it tendeth to poverty.

The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

Proverbs 11:24,25

You have planted your seeds with a cheerful attitude and a good heart in order to glorify God. Now you can expect an abundant harvest. Because

you have been generous in your seed planting, God guarantees that you will prosper (be made fat with goods, watered and blessed). That is His promise to you.

When the devil starts to feed you his lies of fear and pending shortage, remember to cast down the evil imaginations. Stand on the promises of God. Repeat His promises out loud. Say them over and over again. Repetition is good for you, because God created your mind to learn things precept upon precept, line upon line.

We live in a constant barrage of false precepts every day of our lives. While we might not clearly recognize them as lies, their effect on our subconscious minds is strong.

**Be not deceived; God is not mocked:
for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall
he also reap.**

Galatians 6:7

If you will now begin to sow your financial crop, you will soon be reaping an ever-increasing harvest. Then you will have everything you need, with plenty left over to finance God's end-time harvest.

**God is able to make it up to you by
giving you everything you need and more,
so that there will not only be enough for
your own needs, but plenty left over to
give joyfully to others.**

Step 6—Reap Your Harvest

The circumstances in your life may not show any sudden improvement. Your finances may still be short. Your bills may still be difficult to pay. You may not yet have such abundance that your every need and desire is fulfilled, but keep standing on God's Word.

The devil will probably tell you some lies about your promised harvest. He may say something like, "You gave that big offering last week, and you still don't have anything. All this giving stuff is just a big rip-off."

Stop thinking that way! Learn to recognize the devil's lies and cast them out of your mind. Don't give attention to anything that exalts itself against the knowledge of God. These fear tactics are the only thing the devil can use to stop your pending financial harvest.

If you gave according to God's Word, *you will reap* a harvest. As surely as God's Word is the truth, your harvest is already beginning to grow.

Remember, the Word of God guarantees your harvest. You can trust God, knowing He will provide the harvest He has promised you. Sow your seed in faith, and trust the God of Faith to deliver to you an abundant harvest.

Step 7—Sow Again From Every Harvest

As your financial harvest begins to manifest itself, be sure you identify it. Don't begin to think that your job or your material investments are your source. Keep your eyes open. Watch for God's blessings.

Suddenly your business may start doing great, or your boss may give you an unexpected raise, or your investments may begin to make more money.

Part of your continuing success depends upon your recognition that God is your source. God is the one who supplies everything you need. With every upward advance in your finances, learn to thank the Lord. Recognize your increase as part of the blessing you are receiving for giving. Give honor to God for the abundant harvest you are beginning to receive.

When you recognize the source of your every blessing, you will see your need to take the next step. Now you must replant some of your increase into the Kingdom of God toward the next harvest.

As long as you remember who your source is, you will never forget to plant more seed from your abundance. Continue to tithe and give offerings from *all the income* you receive. Keep planting from every harvest. Remember, if you want to harvest regularly, you must plant regularly.

Walk in Abundance

You have already started on your journey toward walking in abundance, for you know prosperity is what God intends for His children.

Once you *know* God desires for you to prosper, you are in a position to receive His abundance through your faithful giving and receiving. Right now, form an effective *giving and receiving covenant* with God. Pray this prayer out loud to the Lord:

Dear Lord, I sincerely desire to give an ever-increasing portion of wealth to you for the financing of your great end-time harvest. Today, I solemnly pledge to become more involved in the spreading of the gospel by sowing money into the Kingdom of God. I will begin by giving \$ _____ (weekly, monthly) into your work, in addition to the tithe.

Beginning today, by faith, I am planting these money-seeds to start your flow of abundance in my life. I promise that as you multiply a money harvest back to me, I will always reinvest a generous portion into the gospel.

Thank you, Lord, for revealing these biblical principles of increase to me. I am now determined to unleash these bold, new principles into my own life. I thank you now for your abundance which this positive action on my part will bring to pass soon. Amen.

Now make the next critical decision. Exercise the covenant. Not only must you *know* God's biblical principles of increase, and *make a covenant* with God, you *must faithfully exercise* the covenant; you must now put these principles to work.

Begin following the steps outlined in this book today, and God will begin blessing and returning to you larger and larger amounts of wealth to liberally reinvest into the gospel ministry.

Give, and it shall be given unto you....

Luke 6:38

Give to your local church, Christian television, or those ministries God puts on your heart. Always remember that your increase does not come from the specific ministry to which you give. You are really giving to God, and He has no limit on the ways He will choose to give funds back to you.

Abound in Faithfulness

A faithful man shall abound with blessings....

Proverbs 28:20

If you want to be known as faithful, you must first promise to be faithful to something. You see, not until you make a promise and keep it have you proved yourself to be faithful.

Think back to the giving and receiving covenant

you made with God. You promised to begin planting a specific amount of money into the gospel. Now as you faithfully keep that promise, God will consider you to be a faithful person, and He will cause you to begin abounding with ever-increasing blessings.

Traditionally we have been led to believe that God promises only *spiritual blessings*, and not financial or material blessings. The context of the following verse shows clearly that the blessings of faithful men are material *and* financial.

He that tilleth his land shall have plenty of bread: but he that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty enough.

Proverbs 28:19

There is no question that God wants us to have spiritual blessings. But He also desires that we have plenty of bread, a symbol of our material needs. He is not just interested in spiritual blessings. He also talks about basic needs and desires.

When God speaks of abounding in blessings, the context of this verse indicates that He is talking about more than spiritual benefits. He is referring to bread for the table, a car for transportation, a home for shelter, and finances to reach a lost and dying world.

Notice that those who are not faithful, who follow after vain persons, or operate a futile plan, shall be poor. However, if you are *faithful* in keeping

your promises to God, He will be faithful in keeping His promises to you. Remember, in Luke 6:38 He said if you give, it will be given back to you in greater abundance. That is God's promise for the faithful man or woman.

Be faithful in your pledges to God. Give as much as you promised, and even more, and give it when you said you would. As you obey this principle of biblical economics, God will be faithful to His promises and abundantly bless you.

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