



FAITHFUL STEWARDS – PART 1

Genesis 1:1 and others

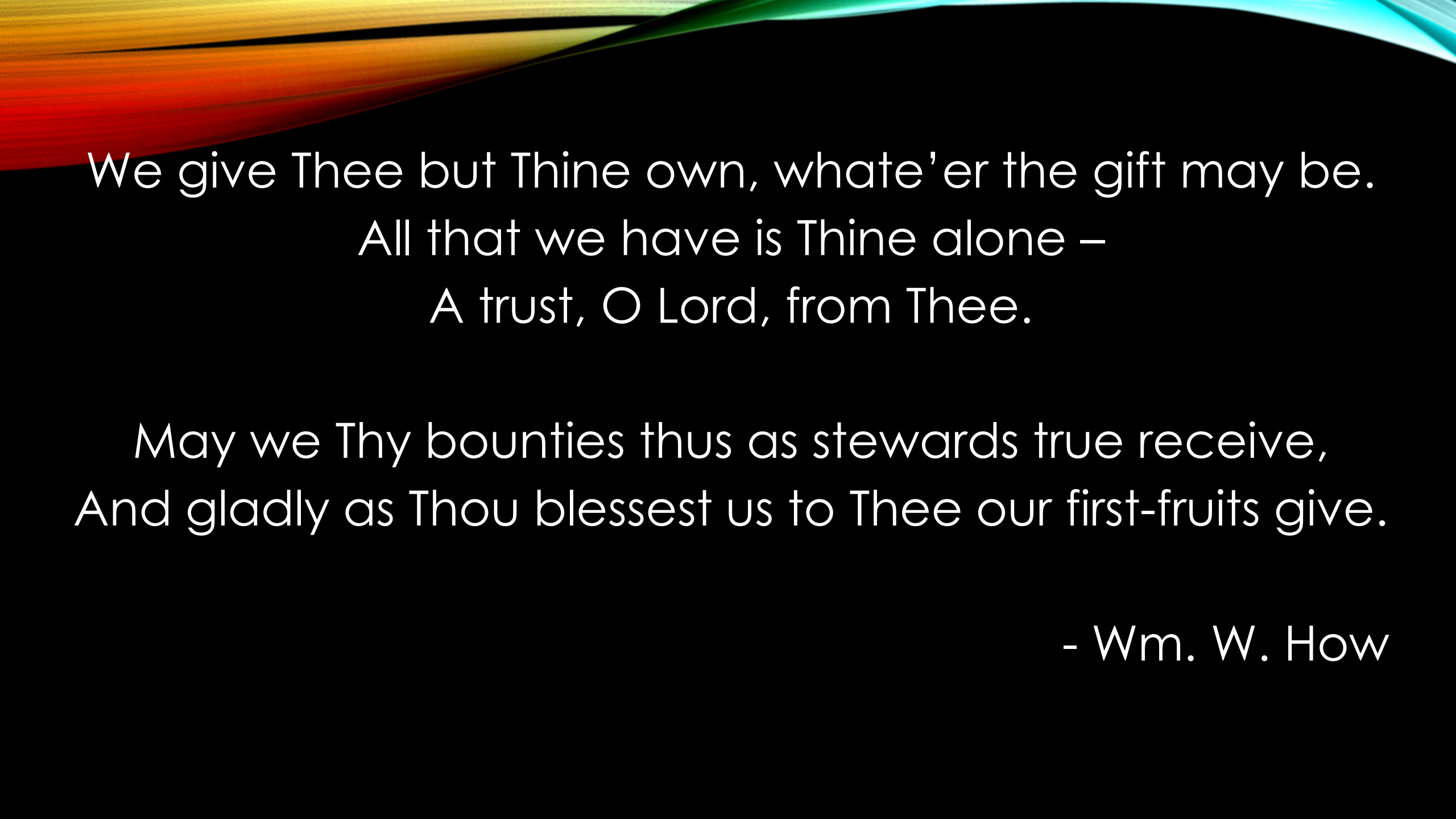


IT ALL CAME FROM GOD

Gen. 1:1 “In the beginning, God...”

1 Tim. 6:17


So, how much of what I have belongs to God?
Every bit of it.



We give Thee but Thine own, whate'er the gift may be.
All that we have is Thine alone –
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,
And gladly as Thou blessest us to Thee our first-fruits give.

- Wm. W. How



What do I possess that You did not give to me?
What mysteries are clear to me that You did not explain?
When did I share truth I had not received from You?
What good works have I performed that You did not
ordain?

Any strength I have, any good I do
Comes from the life I have found in You,
So in all I am and in all I do,
I give the glory to You!

- Steve Green



“But I’ve worked hard for what I have!”

As we should, with the strength God has given

See Deut. 8:7-18

We are stewards

Gen. 2:15



O.T. PRINCIPLES OF GIVING

Gen 4:1-5

Giving our best, not our leftovers

See also 2 Sam. 24:24

Giving by faith

See Heb. 11:4



Giving extravagantly

Ex. 36:1-6

AND WHAT OF THE TITHE?

A tithe – One tenth

First recorded in Gen 14:20 (pre-Law. Also 28:22) when Abram gave a tenth to Melchizedek out of deep gratitude to the Lord for His deliverance

This offering being pre-Law is why many today see tithing as something all believers should do



Various tithes written into the Mosaic Law

Num. 18:21-28 Support for the Levites, temple workers

Deut. 14:22 Support for celebrations of worship

Deut. 26:12 Support for the poor



“WILL A MAN ROB GOD?”

Mal. 3:6-12

God's view of Israel's disobedience in this regard



WHY TITHE?

Giving is an act of obedience, and the tithe is a great starting point.

- It acknowledges God as the Giver/Possessor of all.
 - It demonstrates (and strengthens) faith in Him.
 - It supports both local ministry and outreach.
- It loosens our grip on stuff of earth and helps us prioritize things eternal (Matt. 6:19-21)



SO WHEN SHOULD I START?

Right after you have sought the Lord.
You can trust Him. I promise!

While you're at it, get your kids started while they are small and the numbers are also. Let them learn by doing that they really can trust God in this vital aspect of their walk with Him.