

GOD WANTS THE BEST

Sylvester Onyemalechi

God is very meticulous in all He does. He is careful for details and does not want mistakes. When He gives an assignment to a man, He loves to give detail instructions, which usually includes the exact thing to do (assignment), materials to use, measurements, names, and sometimes the specific individuals He wants to use to carry out the assignment. He is very interested in details and always warns that things be done as shown or revealed. He knows what He wants and does not want anything less than what He wants. He wants the best and does not want deviations.

Ex 25:8

8 "Then have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will dwell among them. 9 Make this tabernacle and all its furnishings exactly like the pattern I will show you.

NIV

Ex 25:40

40 See that you make them according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.

NIV

I have always believed and taught that God does not give revelations and dreams for the fun of it. He wants us to follow His instructions carefully and in detail. When His will is revealed, He expects us to follow up with actions. When God appeared to Moses and told him about the Tabernacle and the Ark to be constructed for His worship, He gave details of the construction materials, measurements, methods and procedures for construction, including the skillful men and women to do the job. He repeated it clearly to Moses that He wants him to make sure the construction is done according to what was shown him on the mountain.

To get the job done, God insisted that He wanted the best and to get the best, skillful men are to do the work. To get the best result, you need the best to do the job. It takes skillful men to produce high quality jobs. God wants quality products and services, gifts and time.

Ex 28:6-8

*6 "Make the ephod of gold, and of blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and of finely twisted linen — **the work of a skilled craftsman.** 7 It is to have two shoulder pieces attached to two of its corners, so it can be fastened. 8 Its **skillfully** woven waistband is to be like it — of one piece with the ephod and made with gold, and with blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and with finely twisted linen.*

NIV

Ex 26:1

*26 "Make the tabernacle with ten curtains of finely twisted linen and blue, purple and scarlet yarn, with cherubim worked into them **by a skilled craftsman.***

NIV

Ex 26:31

31 "Make a curtain of blue, purple and scarlet yarn and finely twisted linen, with cherubim worked into it **by a skilled craftsman**.

NIV

Ex 28:6

6 "Make the ephod of gold, and of blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and of finely twisted linen — the **work of a skilled craftsman**.

NIV

Ex 28:15

15 "Fashion a breastpiece for making decisions — **the work of a skilled craftsman**. Make it like the ephod: of gold, and of blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and of **finely twisted linen**.

NIV

Ex 36:8

8 **All the skilled men among the workmen** made the tabernacle with ten curtains of finely twisted linen and blue, purple and scarlet yarn, with cherubim worked into them by **a skilled craftsman**.

NIV

Ex 36:35

35 They made the curtain of blue, purple and scarlet yarn and finely twisted linen, with cherubim worked into it **by a skilled craftsman**.

NIV

Ex 39:8

8 They fashioned the breastpiece — **the work of a skilled craftsman**. They made it like the ephod: of gold, and of blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and of finely twisted linen.

NIV

God is particular about skill because it takes skill to produce the best, and He wants the best. God does not deserve the worst or just anything, but the best. It is unfortunate that we give God just anything without considering the fact that He is the Almighty God and if there is anyone who deserves the best, it is Him.

When you give God a gift, give your best at that time. You want to buy an item and give it to God, give Him the best there is. Don't just go for the cheapest, get the best for God. When you want to give a cash offering, look for the best and cleanest notes and give to Him. Do not give mutilated, dirty and smelly money. Prepare for it before you leave your house to the house of

God, and do not just say that's all the money in my wallet. Prepare and look for the best to give to your great and mighty God.

When people are going to parties, they look for very new notes to give as gifts to the celebrant either in an envelope or through spraying. They even buy the new notes from vendors before they set out or at the venue of the occasion. But, when they are going to Church they don't prepare and look for clean notes to give to their God. They give dirty, smelly, torn and mutilated notes as gifts to God. God is greater than your family and friends that you are trying to impress. He wants the best gift from you. Give it to Him with joy always. God received the gift of Abel because he gave it with an attitude of one who is appreciative of the greatness of God and gave the best he had, but Cain was rejected because he undermined the person and greatness of God by not giving his best (Genesis 4:2-7).

In the Old Testament, God demanded for the best of everything they have to offer. They have to give first to God before they start eating out of their produce. What they presented to God was the best of what they had.

Ex 23:19

*19 "Bring **the best of** the firstfruits of your soil to the house of the LORD your God.*

NIV

Num 18:29

*29 You must present as the LORD's portion **the best and holiest** part of everything given to you.'*

NIV

To Aaron's priestly family, he says,

Num 18:12

*12 "I give you all **the finest** olive oil and all **the finest** new wine and grain they give the LORD as the firstfruits of their harvest.*

NIV

Give God the best and costliest gift that you can afford at your level. Do not give a diseased or wounded animal as a gift to God. Do not give a defiled or unclean gift to God. Do not give God what you know man will reject. What you cannot give to your governor or president, you should not give it to God who is far greater than your governor and president. Money you know people will not accept from your hand should not be given to God. The Church is not a bank where they return mutilated, dirty and smelly money. And do not squeeze the money you give to God as an offering. If you have respect for the God you are giving to, He will have respect for your gift and bless you. If you treat your offering with respect, God will treat it with respect also. Package it well before giving it.

Mal 1:10-14

10 "Oh, that one of you would shut the temple doors, so that you would not light useless fires on my altar! I am not pleased with you," says the LORD Almighty, "and I will accept no offering from your hands. 11 My name will be great among the nations, from the rising to the setting of the sun. In every place incense and pure offerings will be brought to my name, because my name will be great among the nations," says the LORD Almighty.

12 "But you profane it by saying of the Lord's table, 'It is defiled,' and of its food, 'It is contemptible.' 13 And you say, 'What a burden!' and you sniff at it contemptuously," says the LORD Almighty.

"When you bring injured, crippled or diseased animals and offer them as sacrifices, should I accept them from your hands?" says the LORD. 14 "Cursed is the cheat who has an acceptable male in his flock and vows to give it, but then sacrifices a blemished animal to the Lord. For I am a great king," says the LORD Almighty, "and my name is to be feared among the nations.

NIV

No one is expected to present a gift or an offering to the Lord that is with defect or blemish. So, give God the best without any defect when you decide to give a gift or an offering to Him.

Ex 12:5

*5 The animals you choose must be year-old males **without defect**, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats.*

NIV

Lev 1:3

*3 "If the offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he is to **offer a male without defect**. He must present it at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting so that it will be acceptable to the LORD.*

NIV

Lev 3:6

*6 "If he offers an animal from the flock as a fellowship offering to the LORD, **he is to offer a male or female without defect**.*

NIV

Lev 4:28

*28 When he is made aware of the sin he committed, he must bring as his offering for the sin he committed **a female goat without defect**.*

NIV

Do not give God unclean money – money made from an evil source – that is not the best gift. Money made from prostitution, stolen from another or an organization, occult money and other evil money are an abomination to the Lord. Make your money through a genuine source and it will qualify as a gift to the LORD your God.

Deut 23:18

18 You must not bring the earnings of a female prostitute or of a male prostitute into the house of the LORD your God to pay any vow, because the LORD your God detests them both.

NIV

Put in your best time and energy in the service of the Lord. He wants nothing but the best from you. He gave us His best gift – Jesus Christ – His one and only Son as a sacrifice for our salvation. Today, we are called sons of God because of that precious gift. When you want to render service to the Lord, give your best. Give your best time. Make yourself skillful so you can give your best to Him.

Mark 12:30-31

30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

NIV

If you love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, you will definitely give God your best at all times. You will give your best time, service and gifts to the praise and glory of His name. Love is the foundation of giving God the best that we can. Without love, it will be like a punishment. Love makes it easy and a great desire surging from within. Love is the driving force. Do you truly love the Lord your Saviour? If you love Him, you will give Him your best at all times.

Put in your best all the time

Eccl 9:10

10 Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the grave, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom.

NIV

Give God nothing but the best at all times. Can you do more than you are doing right now for Him? Can you give more if you wanted to? Can you serve more than you are serving right now? Can you spend more time with the Lord than you are doing right now? If the answers to these questions are in the affirmative, it means your best is yet to come out. Determine today, to give God your best time, affection, service and gift. Use your training, skills, knowledge, experience, money, resources and property to serve and honour the Lord. Make yourself better. Give yourself to sharpening and developing your skills in order to give your best for it takes great skills to give God the best. In cleaning the church, become more skillful and commit to excellence. In playing the instrument, commit yourself to becoming more skillful so you can play better. Commit to excelling and be numbered among the best in the world. In singing, commit to excelling as the best among the best. Become a master in singing and voice mastering. In preaching, keep improving as you put in your best every time you are teaching and preaching. Let each new message be an improvement of the previous. In leadership, ushering, multimedia or whatever department you serve in the house of God, commit to

developing and sharpening your skills and becoming a master in what you do, and you will give God the best for He is looking for the best from us.

If you are not improving from time to time, it means you are not putting in your best. There must be visible and measurable progress in the fruit of your work. If your supervisor or leadership is still complaining about the same fault or deficiency in your service, it is obvious you are not improving or putting in your best. If you are putting in your best, you will improve and overcome all weaknesses and eliminate the faults that have been complained against you in the past. You are working for God and He wants the best from you. He is looking for skillful men to do the work. You can become skillful if only you will commit yourself to acquiring it through hard and persistent work. Take up the challenge today and decide to move forward. Give God your best, for He expects your best. He wants nothing but the best from us.