

The Lord Says, 'It's Payback Time'

If you've been following any of my recent posts, you're probably aware that my husband and I are selling the property we've lived on for the past 21 years and buying a ranch. Interestingly, we have also been led to engage in three other real estate transactions at this same time.

One evening when I was talking with my husband, I remarked about the voluminous amount of paperwork the various transactions were generating, and explained how I had been at my desk all day long either creating, answering and disseminating emails, or communicating via phone and texts to keep the never-ending stream of paperwork moving along.

He commented that I was doing a good job of keeping everything organized and flowing smoothly. I thanked him of course, and then said, "But that's what I do for a living. What I do in ministry is all about communication and dispensing information." Then laughingly I added, "Well, supposing I actually got a paycheck for what I do, which I don't."

My husband, suddenly serious, said, "Oh, I think you're getting a paycheck, alright. Just think about how we have been given the opportunity to buy this incredible ranch, and about all the miracles that we've been experiencing in recent weeks. I think the Lord is paying you back for all the years you've been pouring out for Him in ministry."

As he finished speaking, I was struck by a physical witness. I explained to him how in my quiet time that morning, I had felt led to read Luke 6:38 (NKJV), which reads: "Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you." I

told him that as I read this, I sensed the Lord saying, “It’s payback time.”

Payback in the natural sense involves the idea of financial return or reward, especially profit equal to the initial outlay of an investment—the activity of getting something back for money spent. On the flip side, payback can mean an act of retaliation, or revenge.

✖ In the spiritual sense, payback is related to giving—with the measure you use it will be measured back to you. God has a way of keeping track of investment—whether it’s time, money or sacrifice—and is about to settle accounts. Like in the natural, there are two sides to spiritual payback—one positive and one negative. Mark 4:25 (NKJV) says it like this: “For whoever has, to him more will be given; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.”

Friends, we have stepped into a season like none other I have ever experienced. For those who have been pouring out in secret—without compensation, recognition, counting the cost or holding back—get ready for increase. I hear the Lord saying, “The hidden things are coming to light. For those who have given in secret, it’s payback time” (Mark 4:22-25).

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