

## *An Exercise To Discern Both Good and Evil (Hebrews 5:14)*

### **My Contribution On The First Day Of The Week**

#### **Scenario:**

A lesson is preached on the subject matter of giving to the Lord on the first day of the week. The texts used in the sermon were I Corinthians 16:1-4 and II Corinthians 8:1-9:13. It was stated in that sermon that there has to be a reason for a collection to be taken on the first day of the week. After the lesson is preached, brethren are talking about the points that were made.

#### **Statement That Arises From Our Scenario:**

A brother in the congregation says this to multiple members: "I am thankful for that lesson. I have always understood that when I give I am giving to the Lord as I have purposed in my heart. However, I have not thought so much about the fact that when I give there is to be a purpose for what is to be done with the funds given. I am finding it interesting that this is a two-fold subject. Giving to God is the first. Also, that there is something that needs to exist for those funds to be used for as the second part. Right now, we don't have needy saints, widows indeed, or an elder that needs support. All we have is an evangelist. I am just wondering, should I be giving more if I think the preacher ought to be getting more support?"

#### **A Later Statement Is Made:**

A brother responds: "As you stated, the first point is that you are giving to God. What is done after that is the work of the congregation, not the motivation for giving. I am just glad we have something to do as a congregation with the funds that we give or else we would be a congregation that doesn't have authority to take a collection. Then, we would be considered spiritually dead, because we would not be doing any authorized works."

**For Discussion:** What do you see in those statements?