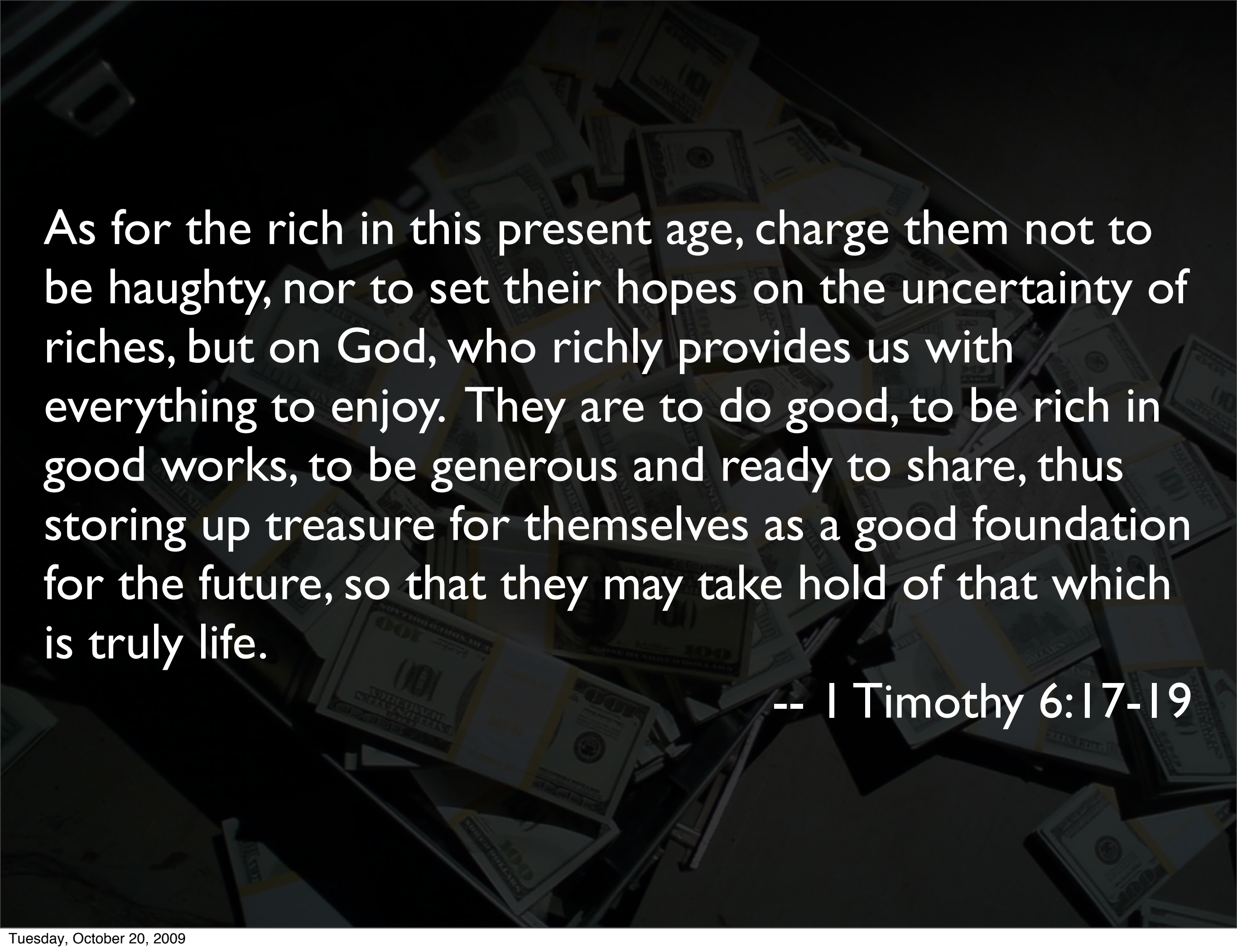




Generous Giving

Part I

The background of the slide is a dark, textured surface covered with numerous US dollar bills, including \$100 and \$20 bills, scattered and overlapping. The text is overlaid on this background in a white, sans-serif font.

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

-- 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Who are the rich?



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- 6.5 billion people in the world

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- The richest 25% of the world's population earn 75% of the world's income.
 - 1.625 billion people earn 75%
 - 4.875 billion people live off the other 25%
 - 2.4 billion people earn less than \$1 a day (37% of world population)

Who are the rich?

Africa

36.2% of pop. earns less than \$1 a day

India

44% of pop. earns less than \$1 a day

86% of pop. earns less than \$2 a day

Who are the rich?

United States

Who are the rich?

United States

- Average income is \$140 a day.

Who are the rich?

United States

- Average income is \$140 a day.
- 86% of India will work 70 days to earn this

Who are the rich?

United States

- Average income is \$140 a day.
- 86% of India will work 70 days to earn this
- 44% of India will work 140 days to earn this

Who are the rich?



Who are the rich?

- The average American will live off of \$51,128 this year.

Who are the rich?

- The average American will live off of \$51,128 this year.
- In India, 86% of the population will live off of \$730 this year.

Who are the rich?

- The average American will live off of \$51,128 this year.
- In India, 86% of the population will live off of \$730 this year.
- It will take them 70 years to earn the average annual American income.



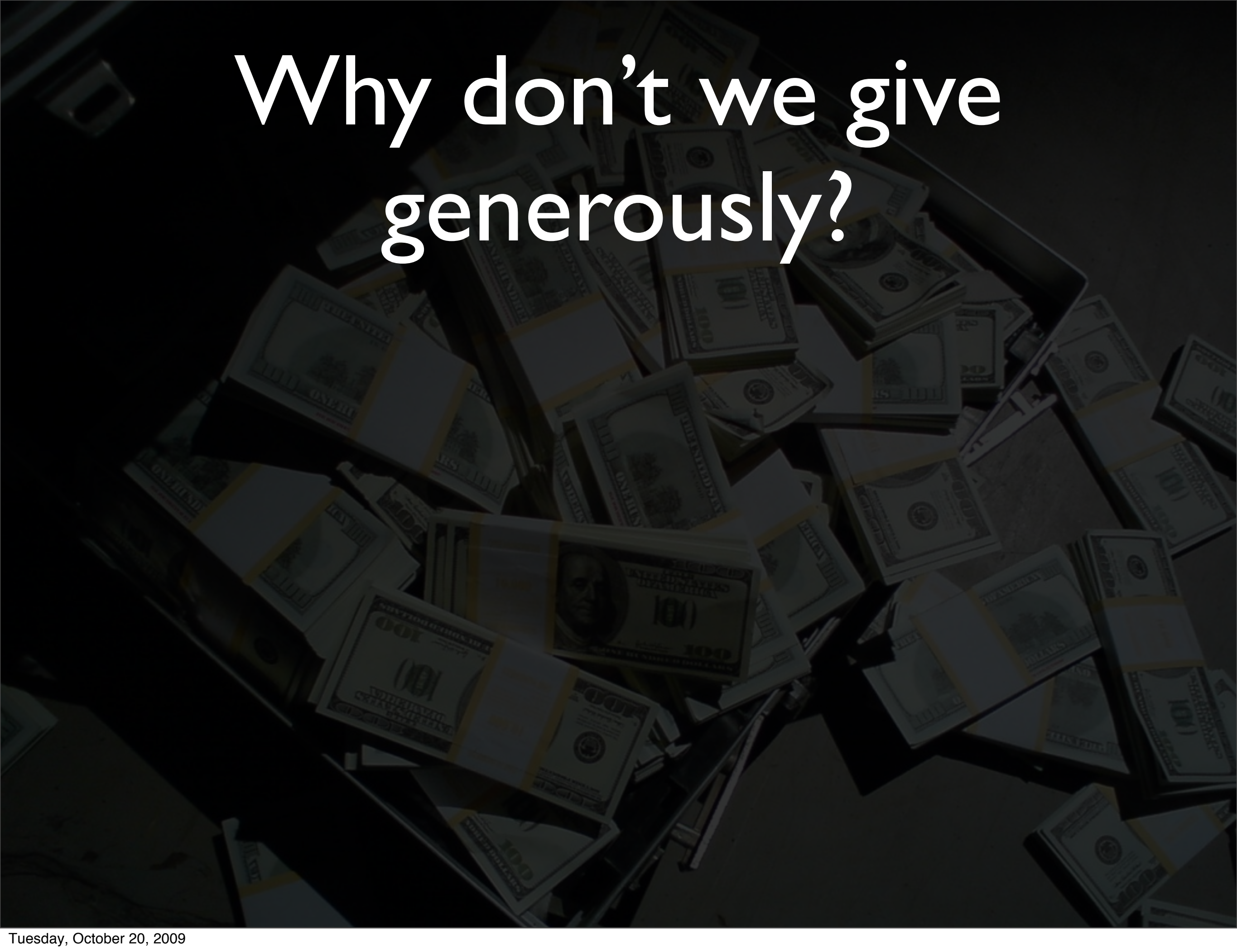
Who are the rich?



Who are the rich?

Three Questions

1. Why don't we give generously?
2. Why should we give generously?
3. What should generous giving look like?



Why don't we give
generously?

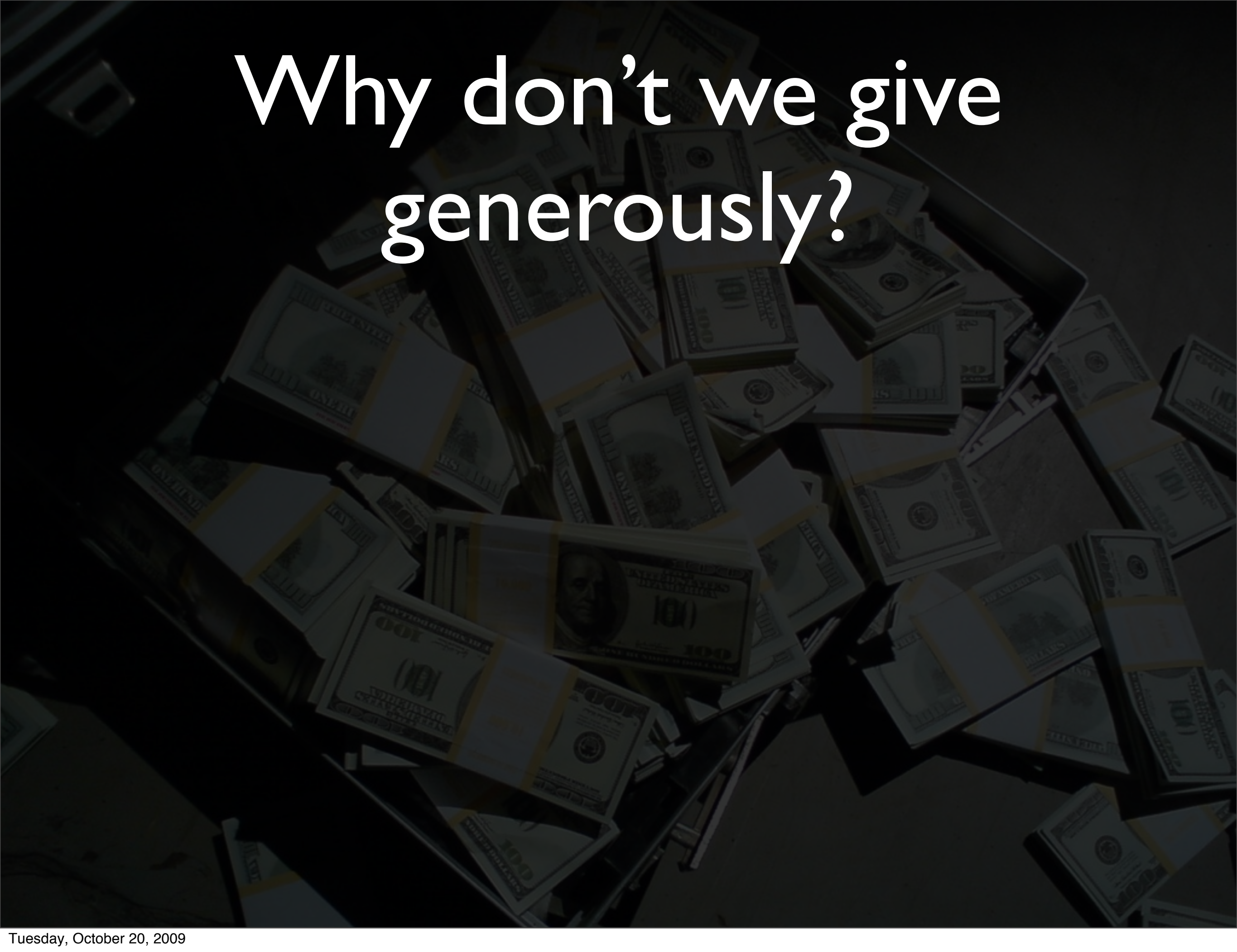
Why don't we give generously?

- **Pride** (*charge them not to be haughty*)

Why don't we give generously?

- **Pride** (*charge them not to be haughty*)

Why don't we give generously? Because generous giving would cut into our status symbols.



Why don't we give
generously?

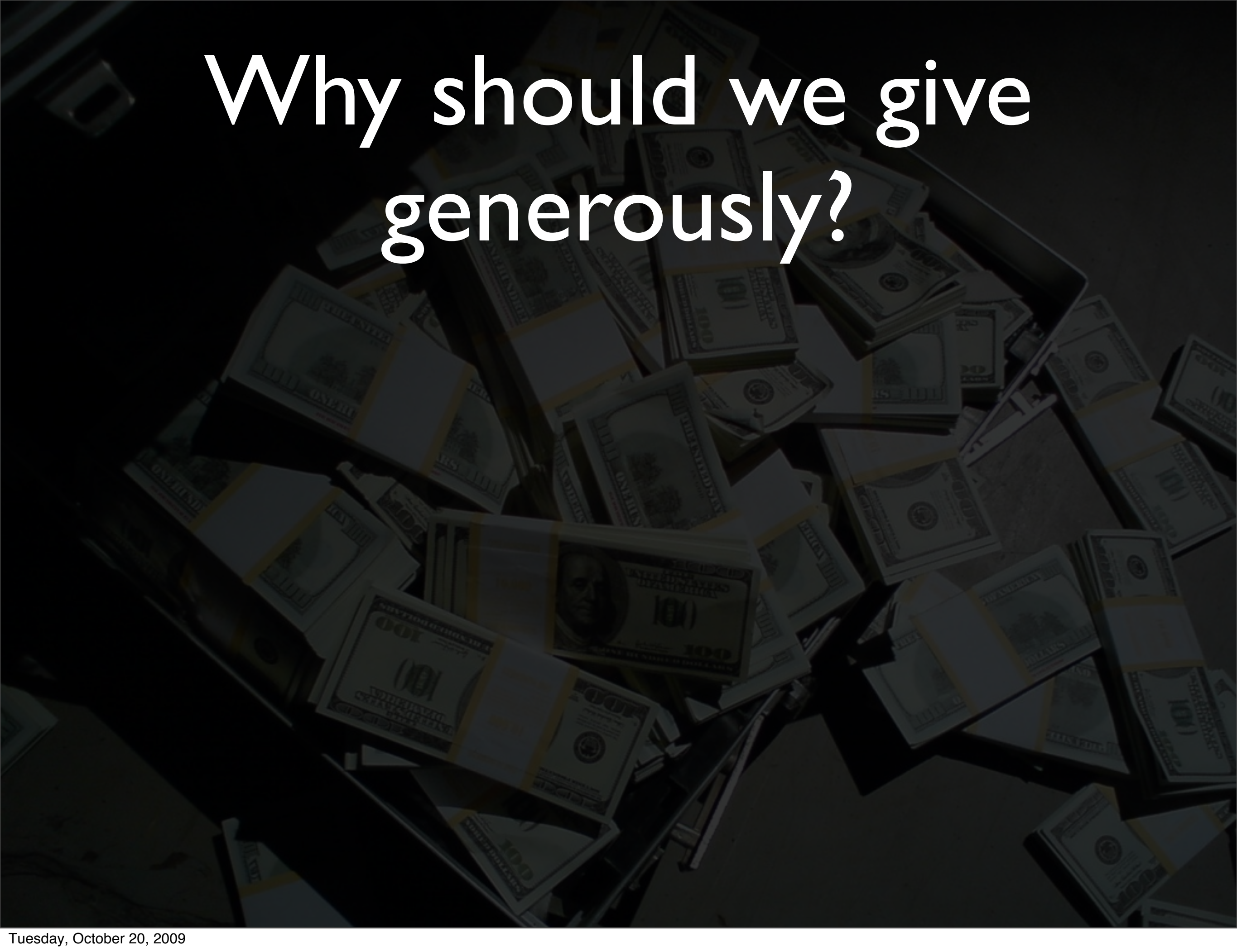
Why don't we give generously?

- **False Security** (*to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches*)

Why don't we give generously?

- **False Security** (*to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches*)

Why don't we give generously? Because you do not give away your security.



Why should we give
generously?

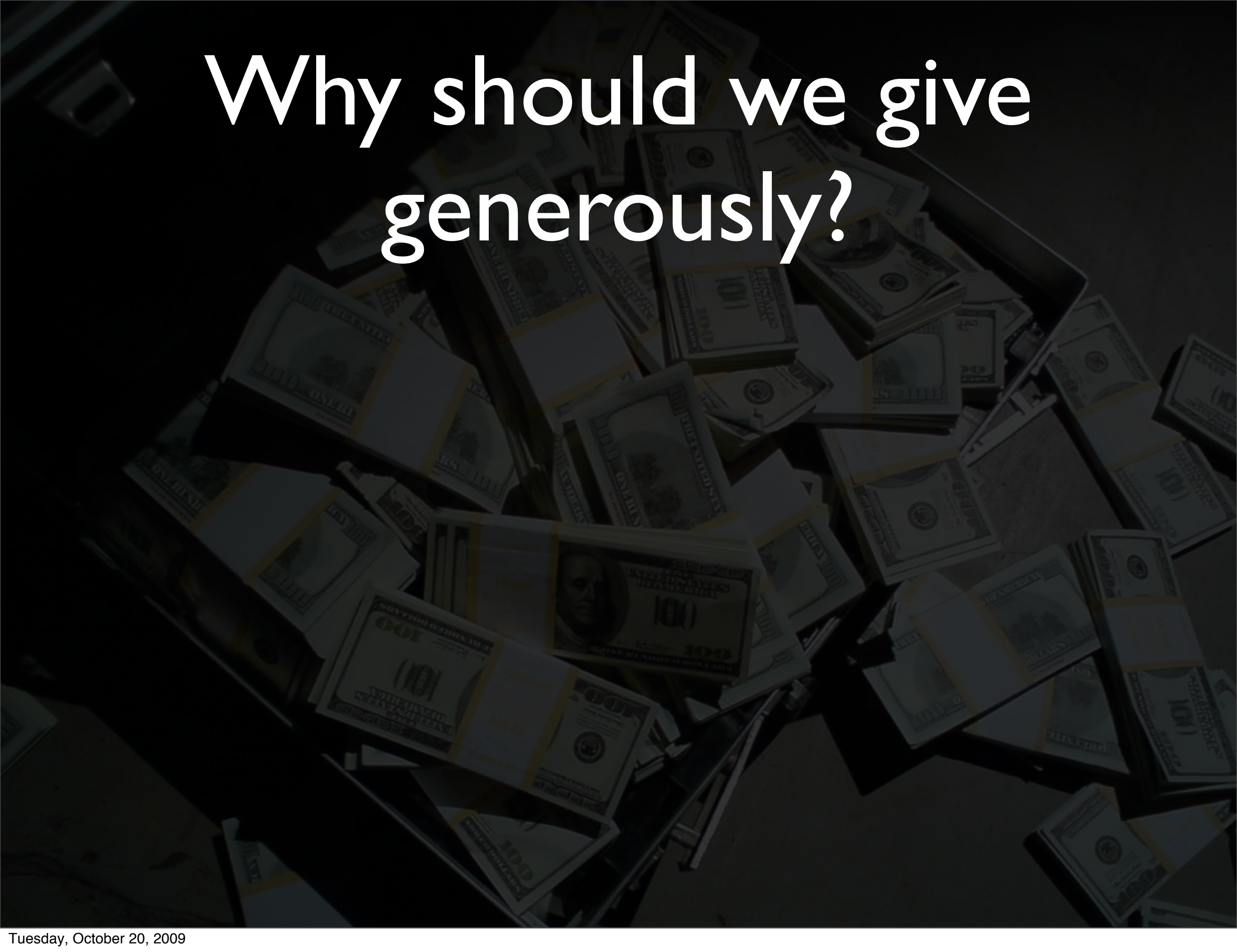
Why should we give generously?

- **Genuine Security** (*set their hope on God*)

Why should we give generously?

- **Genuine Security** (*set their hope on God*)

Why should we give generously? Because our security is not in our possessions. Our security is in the God we trust.



Why should we give
generously?

Why should we give generously?

- **Humility** (*provides us with everything to enjoy*)

Why should we give generously?

- **Humility** (*provides us with everything to enjoy*)

Why should we give generously? Because our possessions are not a result of our superiority, but of God's generosity.



What should generous giving look like?

The background of the slide is a dark, grayscale image of numerous US dollar bills scattered across the surface. The bills are of various denominations, including \$100, \$50, and \$20 bills, and are oriented in various directions, creating a sense of abundance and wealth.

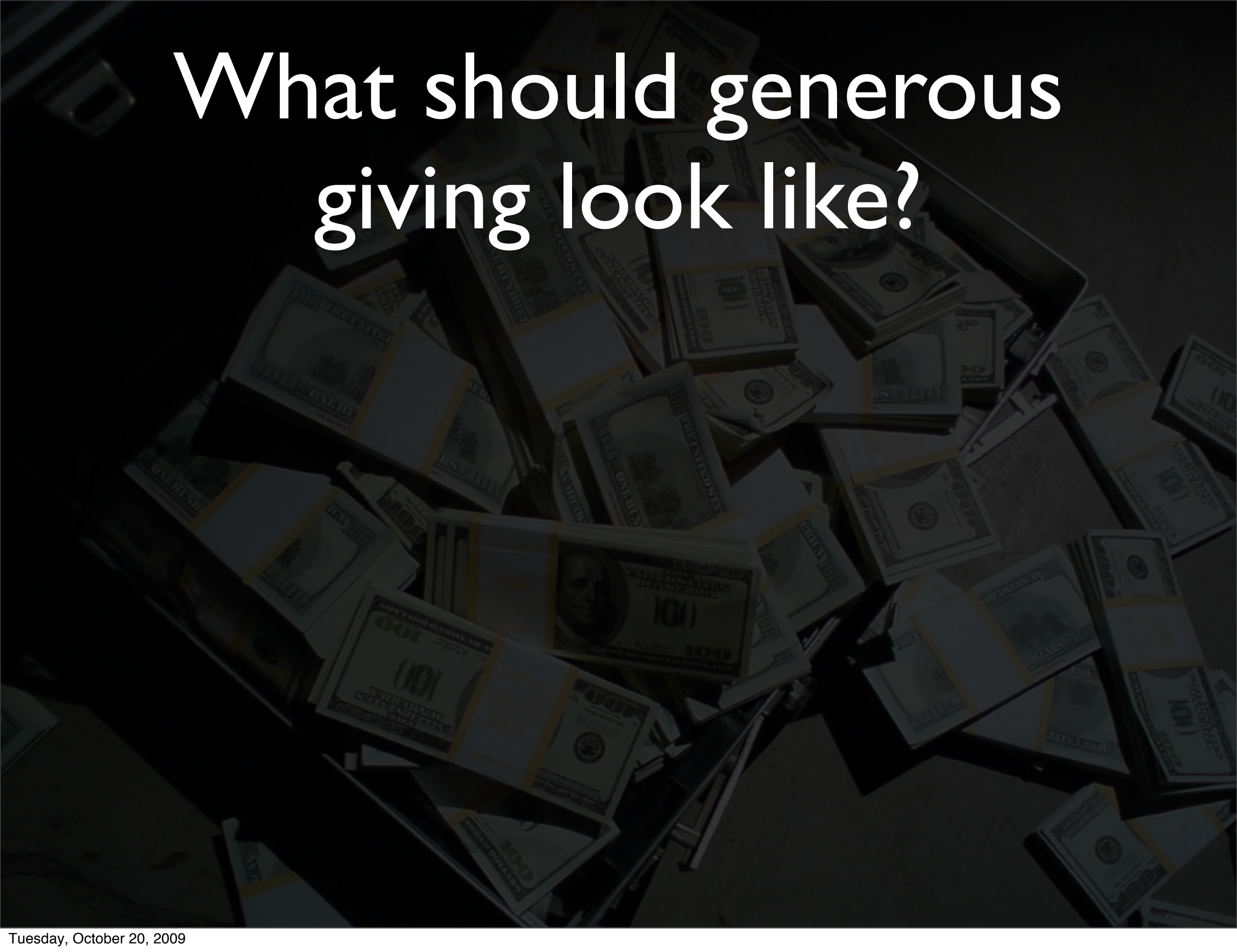
What should generous giving look like?

We are to ... **do good**

What should generous giving look like?

We are to ... **do good**

- Jesus did not hoard his power and use it only for himself. He used his power to do good for others. In our society, money is power. Like Jesus we are to use our power to do good for others.



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We are to ... **be rich in good works**

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We are to ... **be rich in good works**

- True wealth is not found in the amount of your possessions, but in the use of your possessions for the purpose of the gospel.



What should generous giving look like?

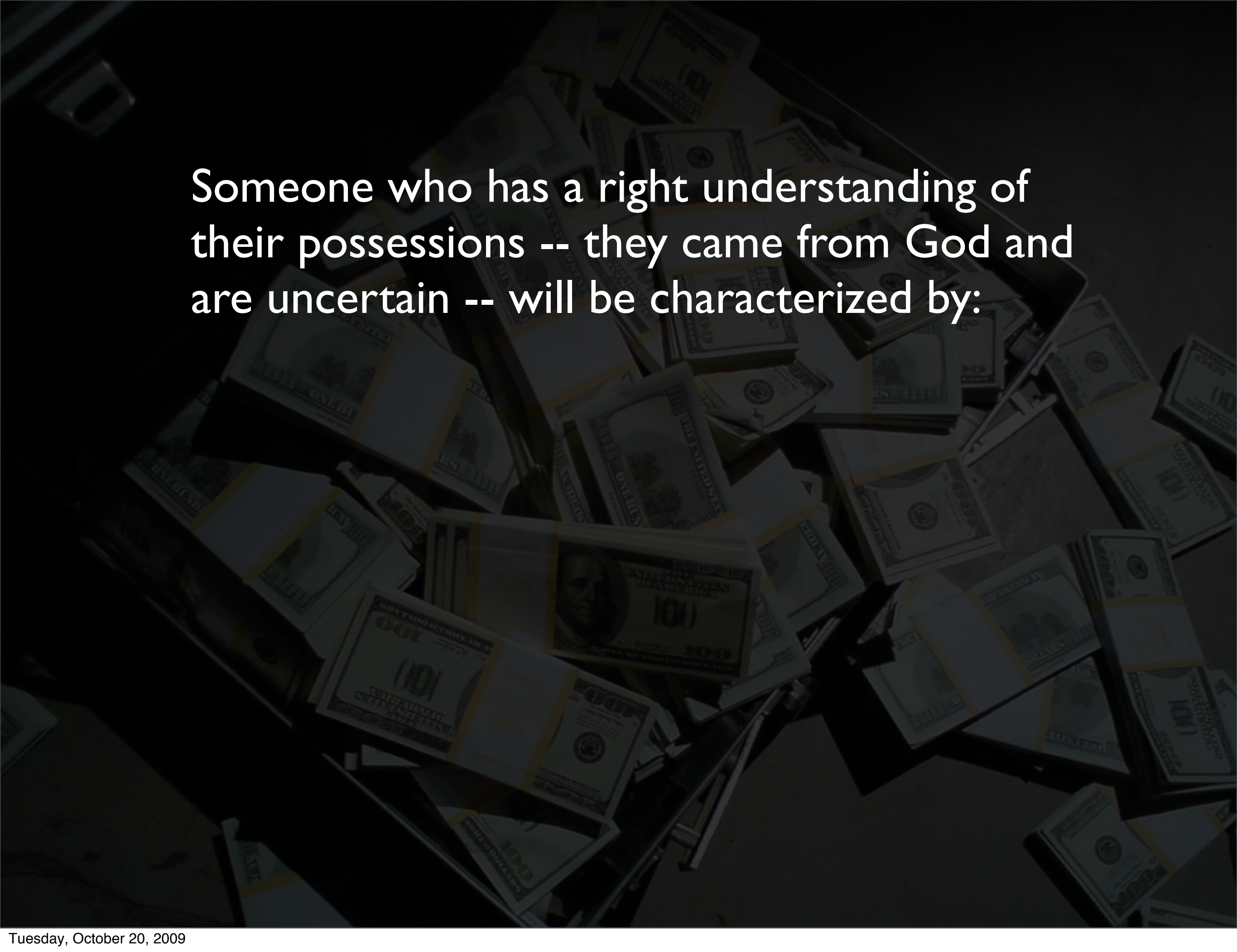
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We are to ... **be generous and ready to share**

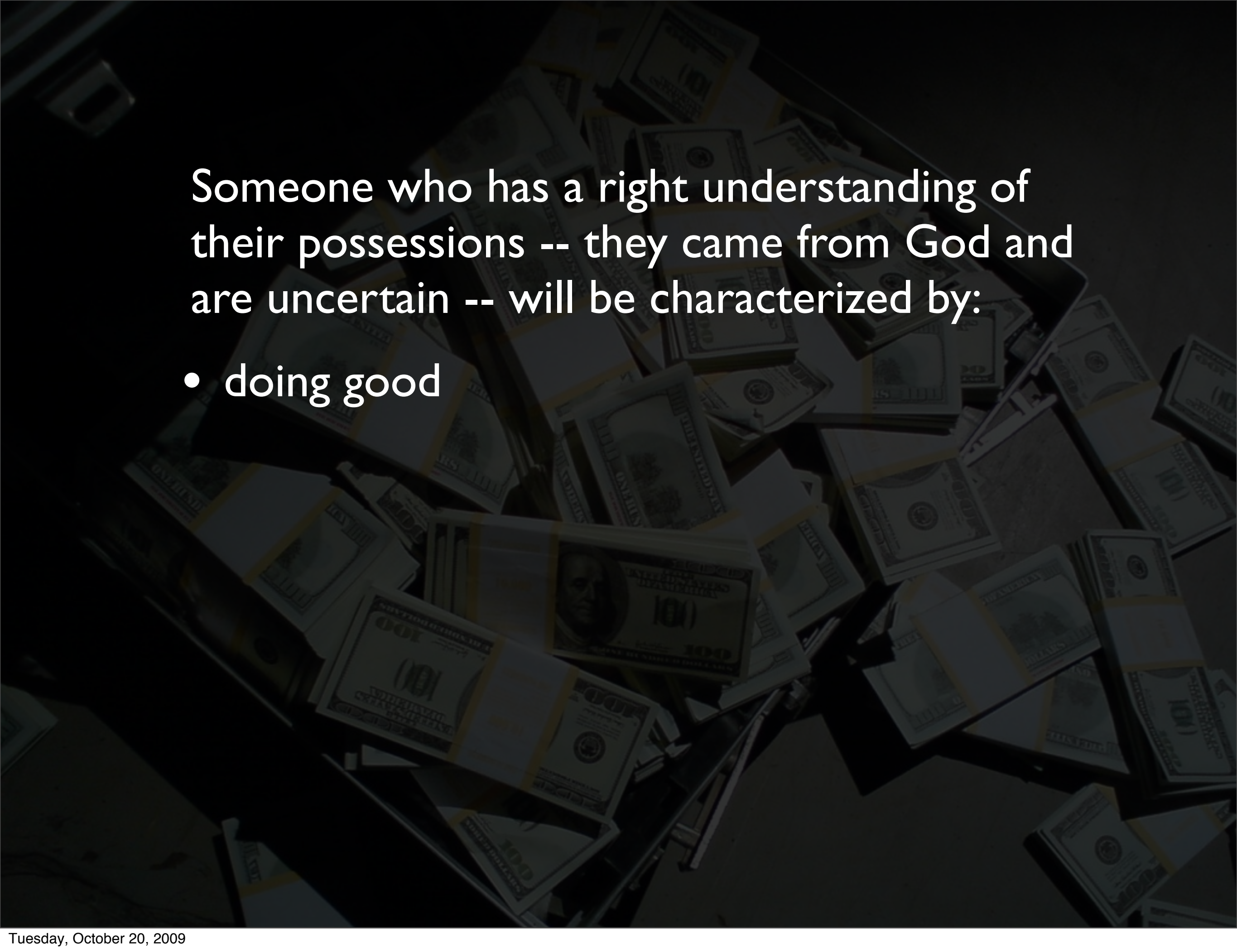
What should generous giving look like?

We are to ... **be generous and ready to share**

- Generous giving is at the heart of the gospel. God does not call us to give generously while he gives sparingly.

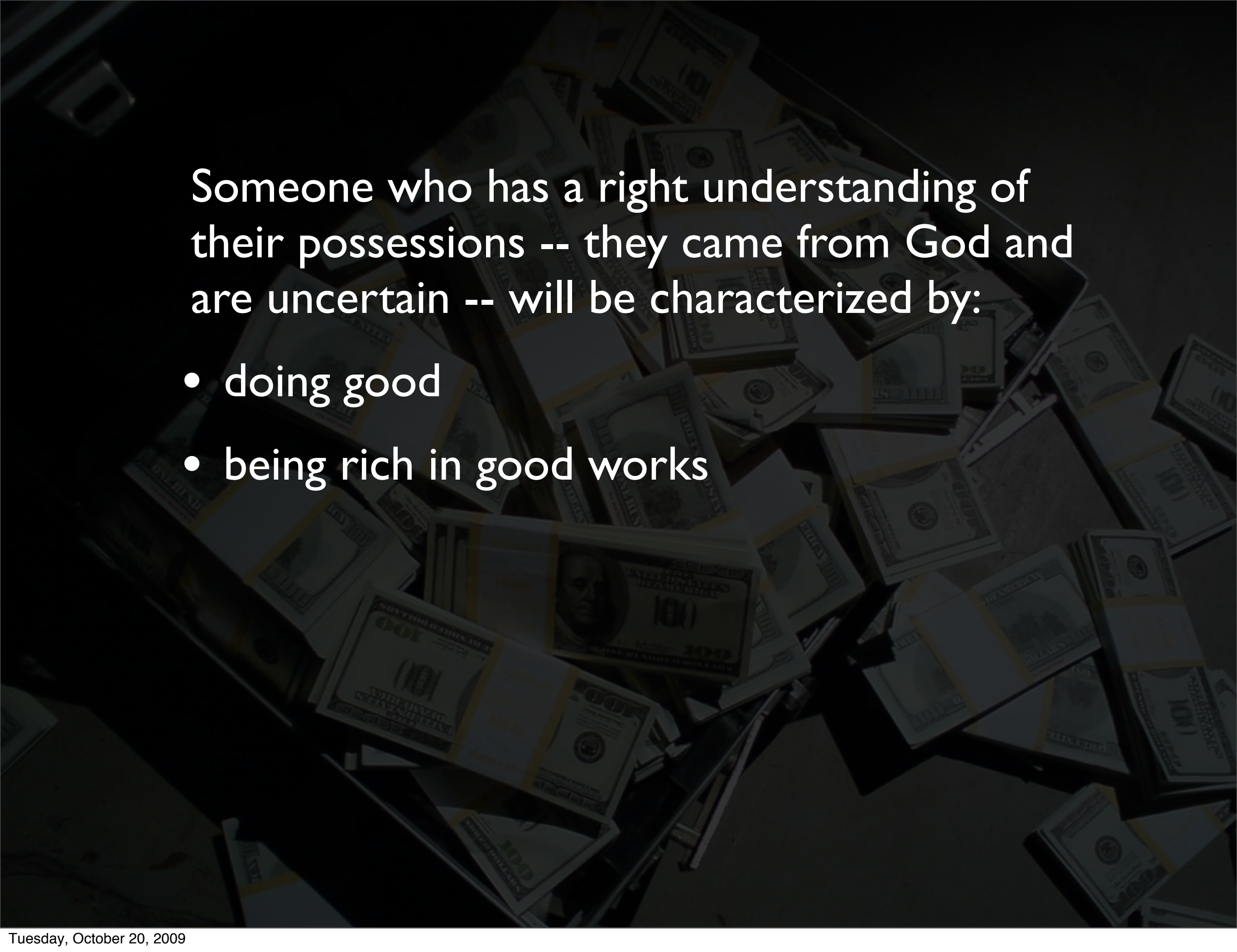


Someone who has a right understanding of their possessions -- they came from God and are uncertain -- will be characterized by:

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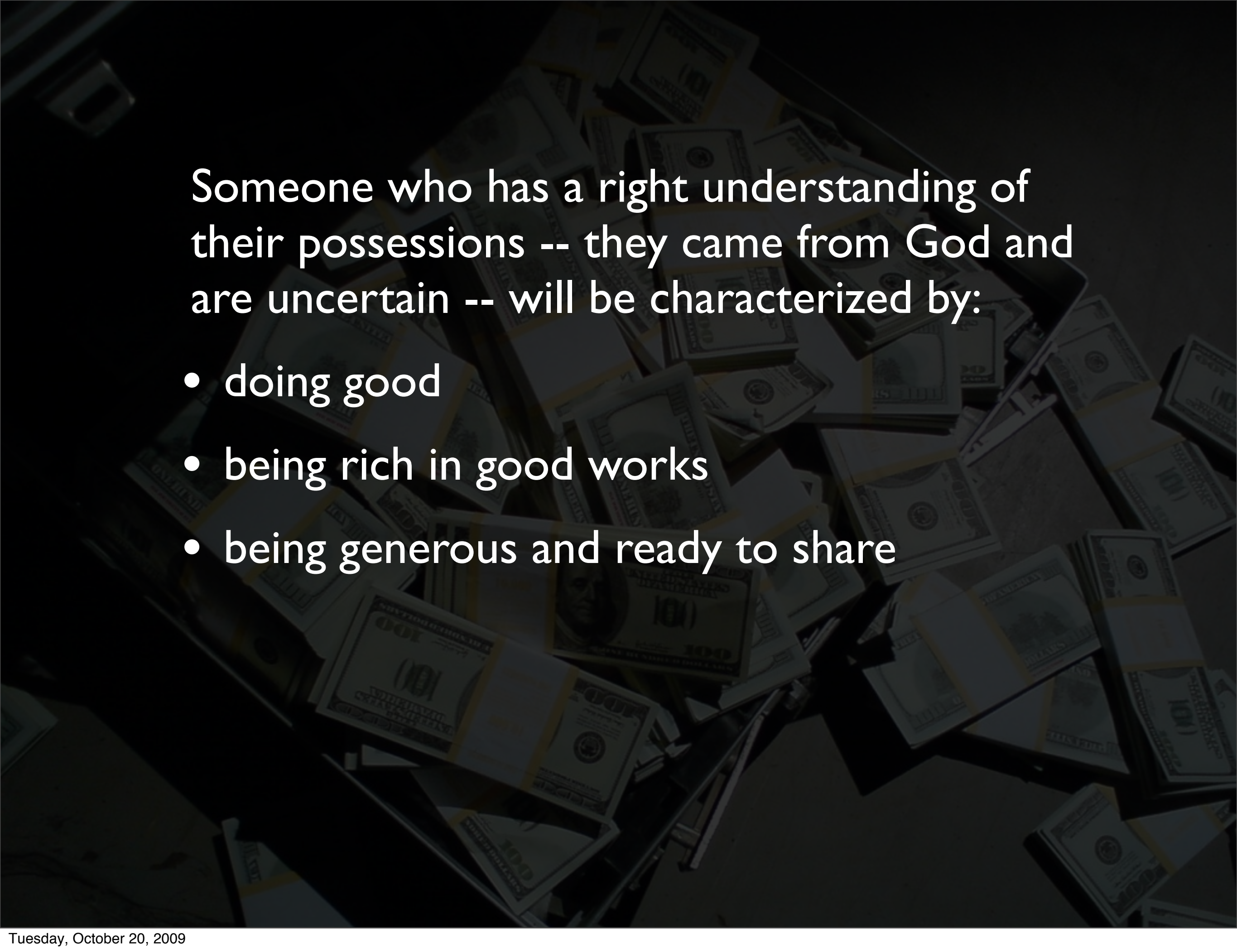
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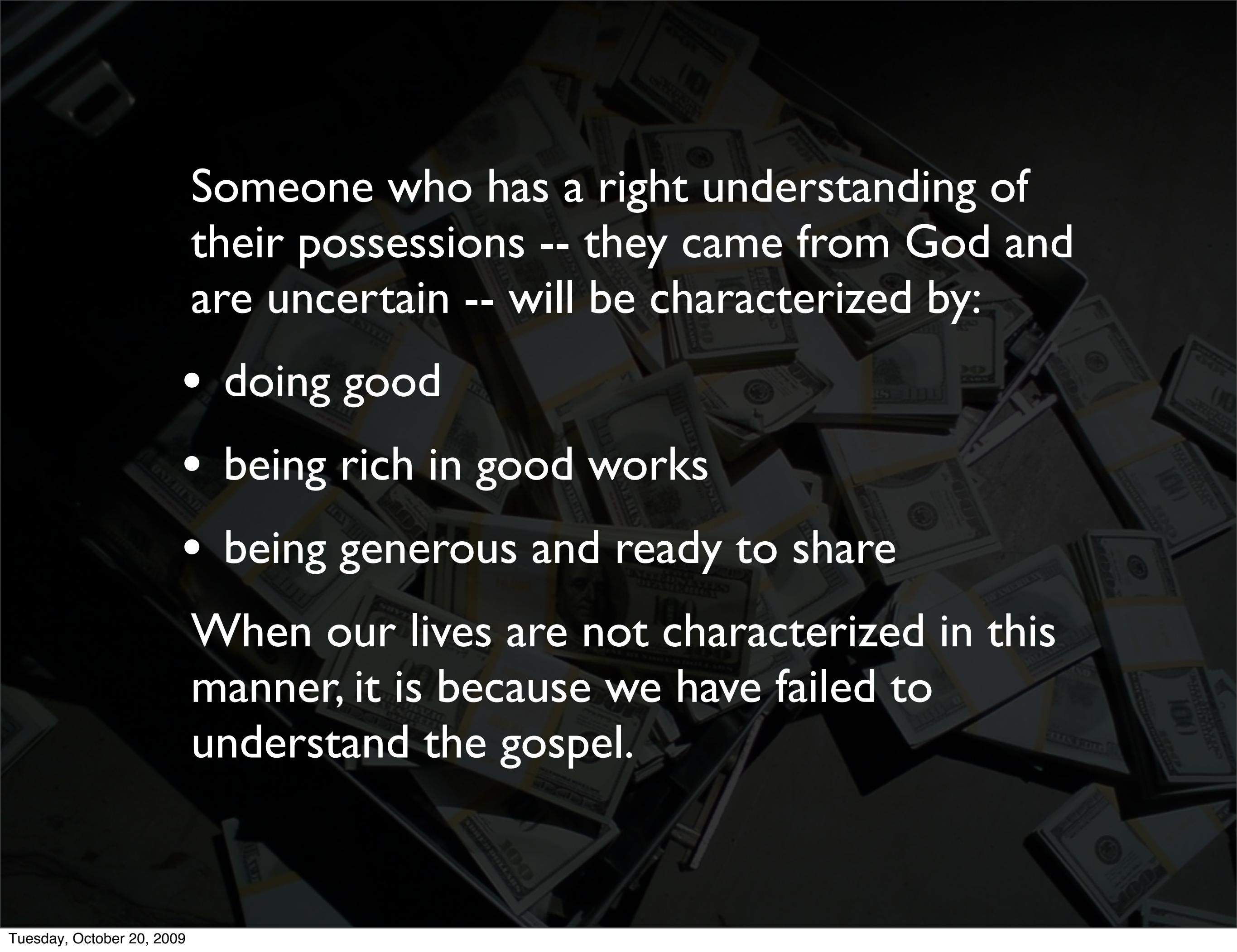
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Someone who has a right understanding of their possessions -- they came from God and are uncertain -- will be characterized by:

- doing good
- being rich in good works
- being generous and ready to share

When our lives are not characterized in this manner, it is because we have failed to understand the gospel.

It's about the gospel...

Until we understand the gospel we will not understand giving.

At the center of the gospel is giving -- For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son...

Therefore giving is not a side issue for some Christians, but a center issue for all followers of Jesus.