

GIVING IS RECEIVING

By Rod

Based on Philippians 4: 10-20 where Paul talks about gifts he has received from the Philippians

CAST

Paul *Bald.*
Epaphroditus *Male, but could be female!*

Paul is on stage seated at a desk, writing. Enter Epaphroditus carrying a parcel.

EP Hi there Paul.

Paul *[Rising and going across to greet EP]* Epaphroditus! How great to see you.

EP *[Serious enquiry sounding concerned]* So, Paul, how are you?

Paul Me? Oh I'm fine.

EP But we'd heard you'd been through a tough time.

Paul Oh, just a few minor difficulties. Nothing to worry about.

EP But are you sure you are OK?

Paul Yes, of course. Mustn't grumble.

EP But we were really concerned about you.

Paul *[Touching EP's shoulder]* That's so kind of you, EP. It is really good to know there are those who care about my welfare. That is just the tonic I need.

EP Talking of tonics – I've got a little gift for you. *[Hands Paul the parcel]*

Paul It's not hair restore is it?

EP No, not that sort of tonic.

Paul Oh you mean *[Putting finger to lips]* schh - you know who.

EP Not exactly

Paul Look, sorry to be flippant. This really is kind of you.

EP Don't mention it.

Paul And it is not your first gift to me.

EP Well, no.

Paul In fact there have been lots and lots. How can you afford to keep on giving me these presents? They must be costing you a fortune.

EP Well, er...

Paul And I really don't need anything. I've learned how to be content whatever my circumstances.

EP But we wanted to help you.

Paul That's really kind of you, EP.

EP Aren't you going to open it?

Paul Oh, OK. I wonder what it is? *[Shakes it]* It sounds like it might be a liquid of some sort. *[Opens it]* And it smells rather good.

EP We chose it specially for you.

Paul *[Finishes opening to reveal a bottle of perfume]* Oh look at that! It's my favourite – 'Aqua Duct' from Saul Paul Gaultier. I love the smell. This truly is a fragrant offering. Thank you EP.

EP No problem.

Paul This aroma will brighten up my life

EP And seeing the pleasure on your face has brightened up mine. It really is true - "Giving is receiving"

THE END