MEASURE FOR MEASURE

By Rod

This well known story is used to illustrate the principle of Luke 6 v 38 that if we give we receive from God in return.

*CAST*

*Narrator 1*

*Narrator 2*

*King*

*Pauper [male or female even though written for a male here]*

Narrator 1 Once upon a time there was a king who owned a kingdom.

Narrator 2 Well, he would wouldn’t he?

N1 *[Annoyed by interruption]* Would what?

N2 Own a kingdom if he was a king.

N1 Quite. Thank you. *[Pause]* May I continue?

N2 Be my guest.

N1 Once upon a time there was a king. *[Enter King]* One day he was travelling in his kingdom *[Looks pointingly at N2]* and came to a small hamlet.

N2 That’s tautology.

N1 I beg your pardon?

N2 Well, do you mean a small ham or a hamlet.

N1 What are you talking about?

N2 Well, a small play is called a playlet so presumably a hamlet is a small ham.

N1 So what’s a singlet then – a small sing?

N2 I hadn’t thought of that.

N1 No, well while you are, I am going to continue with our story. The king came to a small village.

N2 Living in the village was a poor man. *[Enter man who sits down]* The poor man was sitting by the side of the road eating his lunch. This consisted of a bowl of beans.

N1 The king noticed the man and went over to him. *[Poor man stands as king approaches]* The king said to the man, “I am hungry. Please give me some of your beans”.

N2 The poor man looked at his beans – it was all he had to eat that day – and looked at the king.

N1 The king held out his hand.

N2 Slowly and reluctantly the man put some of his beans into the king’s hand. 1,2,3,4,5. He then clutched his bowl to himself and turned away from the king.

N1 The king then continued his journey. *[Exit king. The poor man resumes his sitting position]* the next day the king came to the village again at the same time.

N2 The poor man was eating his lunch by the roadside – a bowl of beans.

N1 The king went up to the man. *[Man stands]* The king said to the man, “Hold out your hand”.

N2 The man cautiously held out his hand.

N1 The king took out a large bag of gold coins from his pocket . From this bag he started to place coins into the hand of the man 1,2,3,4,5. Then he stopped, closed up the bag and continued on his journey.

N2 “Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

*THE END*