

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NKJV)

¹⁶"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."



2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NKJV)

¹⁷"That the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

3 John 1:2-4 (KJV)

²"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou prosper and be in health, even **as thy soul prospereth**."



3 John 1:2-4 (KJV)

³"For I rejoiced greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the Truth that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the Truth."



3 John 1:2-4 (KJV)

⁴"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in Truth."

 True prosperity is wholeness in our entire spirit, soul and body.

 True prosperity is wholeness in every area of our lives.

Psalm 1:2-3 (NLT)

²"But they delight in the law of the Lord, meditating on it day and night."

Psalm 1:2-3 (NLT)

³"They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do."



 God's perspective of prosperity is wholeness and fruitfulness in every area of our lives.

Because His Life and His Presence is in us.

- In this series we are covering:
 - Some obvious things
 - Some misconceptions
 - Some profound Truths
 - Some practical wisdom

- The Treasures of Your Heart
- The Value of Giving
- The Value of Believing
- The Value of Stewardship
- The Value of Work

- 1. The Treasures of Your Heart
- 2. The Value of Giving
 - Tithing
 - Offerings
 - Alms

¹"Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days."



²"Give a serving to seven, and also to eight, for you do not know what evil will be on the earth."



³"If the clouds are full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth; and if a tree falls to the south or the north, in the place where the tree falls, there it shall lie."



⁴"He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap."



⁵"As you do not know what is the way of the wind, or how the bones grow in the womb of her who is with child, so you do not know the works of God Who makes everything."



⁶"In the morning sow your seed, and in the evening do not withhold your hand; for you do not know which will prosper, either this or that, or whether both alike will be good."



¹"Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days."



²"Give a serving to seven, and also to eight, for <u>you do not know</u> what evil will be on the earth."



Value of Multiple Investments

 Share our blessings w/ others generously with however many people we can.

2 Corinthians 9:10 (NKJV)

10"Now may He Who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and MULTIPLY the seed you have sown and INCREASE the fruits of your righteousness."

³"If the clouds are full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth; and if a tree falls to the south or the north, in the place where the tree falls, there it shall lie."



Duh!

The Language of faith: **EXPECTATION!**

Proverbs 11:24 (NKJV)

²⁴"There is one who scatters, yet increases more, and there is one who withholds more than is right. **But it leads to poverty**."



³"If the clouds are full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth; and if a tree falls to the south or the north, in the place where the tree falls, there it shall lie."



Natural Illustrations:

1. Water Evaporation Cycle

- Water evaporates from ocean and forms clouds
- Clouds rain water back to the earth
- By rivers, water flows back to the ocean

■ If the clouds do not give rain they would not reform the seas — the Cycle would be broken.

Natural Illustrations:

2. Decomposition Cycle

- A Tree falls and decomposes over time
- The tree returns to the earth
- To provide nourishment for new trees.

 None of us are to hoard all God gives us and keep it for ourselves – we are to share.

- When we withhold more than we should and fail to give to others:
 - We hurt ourselves
 - We break the cycle

 Only in giving do we maintain the cycle and allow God to refill us.

4"He who **observes** the wind <u>will not</u> sow, and he who **regards** the clouds <u>will not reap."</u>

 Those who <u>wait</u> for the perfect weather will <u>never</u> sow – thus they will <u>never</u> reap

- There are risks in sowing and reaping
 - If we wait <u>until there are no risks</u> we will never sow or reap.
 - We will never un-tether from the dock.

5"As you do not know what is the way of the wind, or how the bones grow in the womb of her who is with child, so you do not know the works of God Who makes everything."

- Stop making excuses, just as...
 - Casting your bread on the water will return
 - Rain from clouds will evaporate
 - A fallen tree will decompose

WHATEVER YOU SOW WILL RETURN TO YOU

Galatians 6:7 (NKJV)

7"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for <u>whatever</u> a man **sows**, that he <u>will</u> also **reap**."



2 Corinthians 9:10 (NKJV)

10"Now may He Who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness."

Philippians 4:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷"Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account."



2 Corinthians 12:13 (NKJV)

¹³"For what is it in which you were inferior to other churches, <u>except</u> that I myself was <u>not</u> burdensome to you? Forgive me this wrong!"

- The <u>only thing</u> that Paul did <u>not</u> do in the Corinthian church that he did in other churches:
 - Was become a financial burden
 - By requesting financial support

PAUL SAID HE WAS WRONG!

As pastors: Do we trust in the...

...Fear of man? OR

...Word of God?

 Many pastors <u>deprive</u> the people by <u>not</u> encouraging tithes and offerings

- Why?...they don't want to
 - Be/appear selfish
 - Promote themselves
 - Teach Law

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¹⁷"Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account."



10"Now may He Who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and <u>increase</u> the fruits of your righteousness."

- Paul was pleased that the church in Philippi had sent him money...
 - Not because he was full (v. 18)
 - He was content before they gave gifts (v. 11)
 - He knew how it would produce...

FRUIT THAT WOULD ABOUND TO THEIR ACCOUNT

- It is important to know:
 - Our giving will <u>never</u> leave our lives
 - It is deposited into our spiritual accounts

GIVING IS FRUITFULNESS INTO OUR ACCOUNT

Mark 10:29-30 (NKJV)

²⁹"So Jesus answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, **there is no one who has left** house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, **for My sake and the Gospel's**,"



Mark 10:29-30 (NKJV)

mow in this time—houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions and in the age to come, eternal life."



WHATEVER WE SOW FOR HIS SAKE AND THE GOSPEL'S WE WILL RECEIVE A 100-FOLD RETURN IN THIS LIFE!

Ecclesiastes 11:6 (NKJV)

⁶"In the morning sow your seed, and in the evening do not withhold your hand; for you do not know which will prosper, either this or that, or whether both alike will be good."



⁶"But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."



7"So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver."



⁸"And God is able to make all **grace abound toward you**, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have **an abundance for every good work**."

⁹"As it is written: 'He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; **His** righteousness endures forever.'"



10"Now may He Who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness."



11"While you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God."



When we give:

- It releases grace that abounds
- It Increases the fruits of our righteousness
- We have an abundance for every good work.
- He gives seed to sowers

God is <u>not</u> after your finances...

GODIS AFTER YOUR HEART!

1 Corinthians 13:2-3 (NKJV)

²"And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have <u>faith</u> to move mountains, **but have not love**, I am nothing."

1 Corinthians 13:2-3 (NKJV)

³"And though <u>I bestow all of my goods to</u> <u>feed the poor</u>, and though I give my body to be burned **but have not love**, it **profits me nothing**."

Romans 5:8 (NKJV)

⁸"But God demonstrated His Own **love** toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."



Romans 13:8 (NKJV)

8"Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law."



2 John 1:5-6 (NLT)

5"I am writing to <u>remind</u> you, dear friends, that **we should love one another**. This is <u>not</u> a new commandment, but one **we have heard from the beginning**."

2 John 1:5-6 (NLT)

⁶"Love means doing what God has commanded us, and **He has commanded us to love one another**, just as you heard from the beginning."

Acts 4:34-35 (NKJV)

Who lacked; for <u>all</u> who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold,"



Acts 4:34-35 (NKJV)

³⁵"and laid them at the apostles' feet, and they distributed to each as anyone had need."



- The early Church demonstrated True Love (agape)
 - Everyone's needs were met

- Ananias and Sapphira <u>pretended</u> to give the total amount to the Church
 - For the purpose of receiving praise
 - Acts 5:1-11

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³"And though <u>I bestow all of my goods to</u> <u>feed the poor</u>, and though I give my body to be burned **but have not love**, it **profits me nothing**."

1"'Watch out! Don't do your good deeds publicly, to be **admired by others**, for you will lose the reward from your Father in heaven.'"



2"'When you give to someone in need, don't do as the hypocrites do-blowing trumpets in the synagogues and streets to call attention to their acts of charity! I tell you, they have received all the reward they will ever get."

³"But when you give to someone in need, don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing."



4"'Give gifts in private, and your Father, Who sees everything, will reward you.' "



- If you want the glory of men
 - Then that is all you will ever receive.

- However, it is biblical to give in private
 - Expecting a reward from God.

 You can <u>cancel out</u> your harvest <u>if</u> your heart is not right.

OUR MOTIVES DO MATTER

• God is not after your finances...

GODIS AFTER YOUR HEART!

HYPOCRISY:

 DICTIONARY: "the practice of professing beliefs, feelings, or virtues that one does not hold or possess; falseness."

GREEK: Pretending on stage.

HYPOCRISY:

When we do something <u>pretending</u> to please God when in reality we are playacting.

• Not HYPOCRISY:

- Doing what God wants us to do, <u>OR</u>
- Doing unto others what we want them to do to us (Matthew 7:12)

EVEN THOUGH WE MAY NOT FEEL LIKE IT

• Not HYPOCRISY: (EXAMPLE)

Jesus did <u>not</u> like going to the cross.

 Nonetheless Jesus did die seeking the welfare and benefit of the world!

THE MOTIVES OF THE HEART

ARE MORE IMPORTANT
THAN OUR ACTIONS

2 Corinthians 9:7 (NKJV)

7"So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver."



• Giving (including tithing) should be:

- An act of worship
- Thanksgiving
- Acknowledging God as our Source
- Act of faith
- Act of honor
- Act of humility
- A seed we sow by faith

⁴¹"Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw **how** the people put money into the treasury. And many who were rich put in much."



⁴²"Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans."



⁴³"So He called His disciples to Himself and said to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put **more** than all those who have given to the treasury.'"

44"'For they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood."



 mammon will <u>not</u> allow you to give like the poor widow.

- Jesus watched how people gave.
 - The heart matters
 - Not the amount

God sees our giving

We need to see giving as God sees it.

2 Corinthians 9:7 (NKJV)

⁷"So let each one give **as he purposes in his <u>heart</u>**, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver."



- It is good to give from the **heart**...
 - Cheerfully
 - Bountifully
 - Generously
 - Not reluctantly
 - Not under pressure
 - Not out of debt

2 Corinthians 8:12 (NKJV)

¹²"For <u>if</u> there is first a **willing mind**, it is **accepted** according to what one has, and <u>not</u> according to what he does not have."



 This verse <u>could be turned around</u> and still retain its Truth:

"If there is <u>not</u> a willing mind, then the gift will not be accepted regardless of the amount." The emphasis is on the motive, not the amount

God is not into debt or deficit giving

He <u>only asks</u> us to give what we have

• This is <u>not</u> an **excuse**...

...to <u>never</u> give <u>OR</u> ...to give <u>only if</u> we have extra

Our tithe should be our first fruits.

Proverbs 3:9-10 (NKJV)

⁹"Honor the Lord with **your** possessions, and with the first fruits of all **your** increase:"



Proverbs 3:9-10 (NKJV)

¹⁰"So your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine."



GIVING INCREASES! WITHHOLDING MORE THAN IS RIGHT LEADS TO POVERTY

We give from within our means

 We honor, serve and worship Him from what we do have We <u>should not</u> be <u>foolish</u>, trying to impress God

 God is <u>not</u> looking at the **size** of the gift but the **heart** of the giver God is <u>not</u> after your finances...

GODIS AFTER YOUR HEART!

Do <u>not</u> let anyone ever **condemn** you into giving

 There is a difference <u>between</u> being taught the Truth <u>and</u> being pressured to give.

- As the pastor of this church:
 - I don't want anyone to ever give out of a 'debt they owe!'
 - But as a seed that they sow!

2. The Value of Giving

- Tithing
- Offerings
- Alms

MALACHI

Message on Returning Back to God

Book of Malachi:

- CH 1: Return to Me in your faith
- CH 2: Return to Me in your families
- CH 3: Return to Me in your finances
- CH 4: Is God returning back to us

• CH1: Return to me in your faith:

- Trust in Me
- Come back and serve Me
- Worship Me
- I will come back to you

Book of Malachi:

- CH 1: Return to Me in your faith
- CH 2: Return to Me in your families
- CH 3: Return to Me in your finances
- CH 4: Is God returning back to us

Many have been taught from Malachi:

- Judgment
 - "If you do not tithe, God will curse you."
- Legalism
- Condemnation
- Abuses
- Negative misrepresentations about God

Galatians 3:13 (KJV)

13"Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree')."



2 Chronicles 5:21 (KJV)

²¹"For He made Him Who knew no sin **to be sin for us**, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."



RIGHTEOUSNESS IS OUR FOUNDATION!

All Scripture is given by God and is profitable to indoctrinate, reprove, correct and train us in this righteousness.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Malachi 3:6 (KJV)

6"'For I am the Lord, I do not change: Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob."

God says,

"I change not!"

WE NEED A FRESH REVELATION OF THE GOODNESS OF GOD!

THESE PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE **MUST BE UNDERSTOOD** IN THE LIGHT OF HIS TRUE NATURE!

THE GOD OF THE **OLD COVENANT** IS THE SAME GOD OF THE **NEW COVENANT**

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A PROPER REVELATION OF GOD **YOU WILL** MISUNDERSTAND THE MESSAGE

Jesus said,

"If you've seen Me you've seen the Father"

Jesus is,

THE EXPRESS IMAGE OF GOD

WE MUST KNOW THE TRUE NATURE OF GOD

Giving:

- Principle of His Kingdom:
 - God gave His firstborn/first-fruit: Jesus!
 - God tithed His Son to reap us!
 - We are born-again of the same Seed!
- The Nature of God

John 3:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶"For God so loved the world that **He gave** His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Romans 8:32 (NKJV)

³²"He Who did not spare His Own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely **give** us all things."

Romans 5:5 (NKJV)

⁵"Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit Who was **given** to us."



Ephesians 2:8 (NKJV)

⁸"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the **gift** of God."



- God gave us His...
 - ...Life
 - ...Nature
 - ...Name
 - ...Spirit
 - ...Kingdom
 - ...Armor

WE ARE BORN OF GOD!

- God is...
 - ...a Giver
 - ...not greedy
 - ...not selfish

NOT MAD AT YOU! BECAUSE YOU WITHOLD YOUR TITHE

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6"'For I am the Lord, I do not change: Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob."

God says,

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WE MUST KNOW THE TRUE NATURE OF GOD

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A PROPER REVELATION OF GOD **YOU WILL** MISUNDERSTAND THE MESSAGE

Yet many see God as being...

...Mean

...Angry

...Judgmental

...Wrathful

...A Hard-task Master

MANY TEACHERS HAVE REVEALED A GOD LIKE THIS

God is <u>not</u> after your finances...

GODIS AFTER YOUR HEART!

GOD BELIEVES HIS WORD

YOUR HEART WILL FOLLOW YOUR TREASURES

- We must see the Presence of God in:
 - Giving our treasures to God
 - Engaging w/ God by faith

WHERE YOUR HEART IS YOUR TREASURES WILL FOLLOW

However...our culture struggles w/ the discipline of tithing...why?

 There are a lot of misunderstandings and abuses in regards to tithing • Tithing is <u>not</u> about me losing 10% of my increase.

- Tithing is about...
 - Sowing a tenth in honorable worship to God,
 - Serving Him w/ my treasures and
 - A heart that is following after God

• Tithing is not about losing 10%

Tithing is about God resting on my 90%

Tithing is not about a losing proposition

- Tithing <u>is</u> a winning partnership:
 - Where God and I are engaging in our faith in the riches of life

 There are many misunderstandings and bad teaching in regards to tithing that I could encounter

 I want to give you an <u>overview</u> and some <u>nuggets</u> that I believe are <u>life changing</u>.

- We have an entire generation that has <u>not</u> read the Scriptures for themselves
- Many really believe when someone speaks it is really just their opinion

FAITH ONLY COMES FROM HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Amos 8:11 (KJV)

11"'Behold, the days are coming,' says the Lord God, 'That I will send a famine on the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord."



3 John 1:4 (KJV)

⁴"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in Truth."

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NKJV)

¹⁶"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NKJV)

¹⁷"That the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

6"'For I am the Lord, I do not change: Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob."



7"'Yet from the days of your fathers you have gone away from My ordinances and have not kept them. Return to Me and I will return to you,' says the Lord of hosts, 'But you said, "In what way shall we return.""

8"'Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, "In what way have we robbed you?" In tithes and offerings."

9"'You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, even this whole nation."

10"'Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,' says the Lord of hosts. 'If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it."



11"'And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,' says the Lord of hosts."



6"'For I am the Lord, I do not change: Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob."

Malachi 3:7 (KJV)

7"'Yet from the days of your fathers you have gone away from My ordinances and have not kept them. Return to Me and I will return to you,' says the Lord of hosts, 'But you said, "In what way shall we return.""

Why do you resist me so much?

- My rules and ordinances are <u>not</u> bondage
- I am <u>not</u> being mean
- I am <u>not</u> trying to make your life miserable
- My ordinances leave you with nothing but blessing and prosperity in your lives.

When you walk with Me you are blessed!

 When you walk w/ the devil (the god of mammon) you are cursed.

Righteousness leads to life

- Proverbs 11:19
- Proverbs 10:16
- Proverbs 12:28

Sin leads to death

- James 1:15
- Romans 14:23

Proverbs 11:19 (NKJV)

¹⁹"As righteousness **leads to life**, so he who pursues evil pursues it to his own death."

Proverbs 10:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶"The labor of the righteous **leads to life**, the wages of the wicked is sin."

Proverbs 12:28 (NKJV)

²⁸"In the way of righteousness is life, and in its pathway there is no death."

2 Chronicles 5:21 (KJV)

²¹"For He made Him Who knew no sin **to be sin for us**, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."



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All Scripture is given by God and is profitable to indoctrinate, reprove, correct and train us in this righteousness.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Romans 8:1-2 (NASB)

¹"Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

Romans 8:1-2 (NASB)

²"For the **law of the Spirit** of life in Christ Jesus <u>has</u> set you free from the **law of sin** and death."



Malachi 3:7 (KJV)

7"'Yet from the days of your fathers you have gone away from My ordinances and have not kept them. Return to Me and I will return to you,' says the Lord of hosts, 'But you said, "In what way shall we return.""

- How do we get back?
 - With our treasures
 - "Connect w/ Me in your giving"
 - Our heart will follow our treasures

God is <u>not</u> after your finances...

GODIS AFTER YOUR HEART!

Malachi 3:8 (KJV)

⁸"Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, "In what way have we robbed you?" In tithes and offerings."

- Robbed of what?
 - Rebuking the devourer
 - God protecting our treasures
 - Supernatural provision

- Robbed of what?
 - Faith in His Grace through unbelief
 - Opening the windows of heaven and pouring out such a blessing
 - Experiencing the blessing of giving

Giving is <u>not</u> about our performance...

GIVING IS ABOUT PUTTING OUR FAITH IN HIS GRACE

GRACE IS NOT AUTOMATIC! WE MUST TRUST HIM!

Romans 1:16 (KJV)

16"For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation for everyone who believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."



Ephesians 2:8 (NKJV)

⁸"For by grace you have been saved through **faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God."



Luke 6:38 (NKJV)

38"Give, and it shall 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."

FAITH IS A POSITIVE EXPECTATION THAT PLEASES GOD

Hebrews 11:1, 6

WHEN I GIVE BY FAITH I EXPECT GRACE IN MY LIFE!

WHENIGIVE BY FAITH I EXPECT INCREASE IN MY LIFE!

Galatians 6:6-9 (NKJV)

7"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap."



HIS GOSPEL IS THE POWER OF GOD UNTO SALVATION! TO EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES

THE JUST WILL LIVE BY HISFAITH

GIVING IS A **PARTNERSHIP** WHERE WE ENGAGE **OUR FAITH** IN HIS GRACE

IF WE BELIEVE GOD WHY DON'T WE

TRUST

WHAT HE SAYS?

IF WE BELIEVE GOD WHY DON'T WE HONOR

HIS WORD?

God is <u>not</u> after your finances...

GODIS AFTER YOUR HEART!

 When we don't trust His Word we rob God of making us...

A WITNESS TO THE WORLD

THE KINGDOM OF GOD OPERATES AS A

SEED

THAT MUST BE SOWN
BY FAITH

Malachi 3:9 (KJV)

9"'You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, even this whole nation."

- It does <u>NOT</u> say:
 - "If you don't tithe and give offerings God will curse you."
 - That is a misrepresentation of God

- God is...
 - ...a Giver
 - ...not greedy
 - ...not selfish

NOT MAD AT YOU! BECAUSE YOU WITHOLD YOUR TITHE

WE NEED A FRESH REVELATION OF THE GOODNESS OF GOD!

THESE PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE MUST BE UNDERSTOOD IN THE LIGHT OF HIS TRUE NATURE!

THE GOD OF THE **OLD COVENANT** IS THE SAME GOD **OF THE NEW COVENANT**

God says,

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RIGHTEOUSNESS IS OUR FOUNDATION!

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2 Timothy 3:16-17

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A PROPER REVELATION OF GOD **YOU WILL** MISUNDERSTAND THE MESSAGE

- God is...
 - ...a Giver
 - ...<u>not</u> greedy
 - ...not selfish

NOT MAD AT YOU!

BECAUSE YOU WITHOLD YOUR TITHE

Malachi 3:9 (KJV)

9"'You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, even this whole nation."

- We are cursed because...
 - Without faith in God we are operating under the world's economy that is cursed
 - mammon is resting on your finances
 - The world is still subjected to the curse of the Fall vs the curse of the Law

2 Chronicles 5:21 (KJV)

²¹"For He made Him Who knew no sin **to be sin for us**, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."



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• (EXAMPLE) Under an Umbrella:

- I am protected / provided for
- I am unaffected by the rain
- Although it is still raining
- But the moment I remove the umbrella
 - God is <u>not</u> the one getting me wet
 - I chose to come out from the provision and protection of the umbrella

Galatians 6:8 (NKJV)

⁸"For he who sows to his flesh <u>will</u> of the flesh **reap corruption**, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.."

5"Thus says the Lord, 'Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart departs from the Lord."



6"'For he shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when good comes, but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land not inhabited."

7"'Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is."

8"'For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes; but its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit."



⁹"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?"

Jeremiah 17:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰"I, the Lord search the <u>heart</u>, I **test** the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the **fruit** of his doings."

 We live in a world of darkness that is laboring under the curse of the Fall

 The entire planet is groaning and laboring w/ birth pangs waiting for the sons of God to manifest

¹⁹"For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God."



²⁰"For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him Who subjected it **in hope**."



²¹"Because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God."



²²"For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now."



²³"Not only that, but we also who have the **firstfruits** of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body."



 All creation is groaning under the Fall that Adam subjected it to. Therefore, when I am not...

...Trusting God w/ my finances...

...Acting by faith w/ my finances...

... Yielding the first fruits of my finances...

I FORFEIT HIS GRACE

 When I come out from His umbrella of blessing, provision and protection...

I AM OPERATING UNDER THE CURSE

GOD IS NOT CURSING US

He did not say,

"I will curse you."

He said,

"You are cursed"

COLOSSIANS 1:13 (NKJV)

¹³"He <u>has</u> delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed is into the kingdom of His love."



WE HAVE BEEN DELIVERED FROM THE POWER OF DARKNESS

PRESENCE OF DARKNESS

DARKNESS IS ALL AROUND US WEARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

WITHOUT CHRIST THE WORLD IS LIVING UNDERA CURSE THE EFFECTS OF SIN

TITHING BY FAITH **CONNECTS US TO** GOD'S GRACE IN THE MIDST OF A **FALLEN WORLD**

1"Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, 'I have acquired a man from the Lord."



²"Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a **keeper of sheep**, but Cain was a **tiller of the ground**."

³"And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the **fruit** of the ground to the Lord."



4"Abel also brought of the **firstborn** of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering."



⁵"But He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell."



6"So the Lord said to Cain, 'Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen?'"



7"'If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not well sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."



⁸"Now Cain talked with Abel his brother, and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him."



⁹"Then the Lord said to Cain, 'Where is Abel your brother?' He said, 'I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?'"



¹⁰"And He said. 'What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me FROM THE GROUND.'"



EARTH, WHICH HAS OPENED ITS MOUTH TO RECEIVE YOUR BROTHER'S BLOOD from your hand."



12"'When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive and a vagabond you shall be on the earth."



Cain:

- He was a farmer
- His <u>heart</u> was filled w/ greed (Jude)
- Sin lied at the door it desired to have him
- Sin escalated to him murdering his brother

Romans 14:23 (NKJV)

²³"But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because he does not eat from faith; for whatever is <u>not</u> from faith <u>is</u> sin."



²"Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a **keeper of sheep**, but Cain was a **tiller of the ground**."

Genesis 4:3 (NKJV)

³"And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the **fruit** of the ground to the Lord."



Genesis 4:4 (NKJV)

4"Abel also brought of the **firstborn** of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering."



Genesis 4:7 (NKJV)

7"'If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not well sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."



 Giving is <u>not</u> about our performance to please God...

GIVING IS ABOUT RESPONSE OF FAITH IN HIS GRACE

WITHOUT FAITH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PLEASES GOD

Hebrews 11:6

THE JUST WILL LIVE BY HISFAITH

God is not after your finances...

GODIS AFTER YOUR HEART!

Genesis 4:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰"And He said. 'What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me FROM THE GROUND.'"



EARTH, WHICH HAS OPENED ITS MOUTH TO RECEIVE YOUR BROTHER'S BLOOD from your hand."



12"'When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive and a vagabond you shall be on the earth."



GOD DID NOT CURSE CAIN

THE EARTH CURSED CAIN

THE EARTH REFUSED TO YIELD ITS STRENGTH

- How does the ground curse someone?
 - This is huge!
 - A carnal Christian cannot process this!
 - "Your crops will fail"
 - "Your vines will cast their fruit before their season"

Genesis 4:13 (NKJV)

¹³"And Cain said to the Lord, 'My punishment is greater than I can bear!'"

Genesis 4:14 (NKJV)

14"'Surely You have driven me out this day from the face of the ground; I shall be hidden from Your face; I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth, and it will happen that anyone who finds me will kill me."



- Cain, a farmer understood:
 - "I am unemployed!"
 - "I will not be able to prosper"
 - "I will be a vagabond"

THE EARTH CURSED CAIN

THE EARTH REFUSED TO YIELD ITS STRENGTH

Jeremiah 17:5 (NKJV)

5"Thus says the Lord, 'Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart departs from the Lord."

 When I come out from His umbrella of blessing, provision and protection...

I AM OPERATING UNDER THE CURSE

GOD IS NOT CURSING US

ANYTHING THAT IS NOT OF FAITH IS SIN

He did not say,

"I will curse you."

He said,

"You are cursed"

WITHOUT CHRIST THE WORLD IS LIVING UNDERA CURSE THE EFFECTS OF SIN

THE EARTH CURSED CAIN

THE EARTH REFUSED TO YIELD ITS STRENGTH

But God...

SHOWED HIM

MERCY

THE GOD OF THE **OLD COVENANT** IS THE SAME GOD OF THE **NEW COVENANT**

God says,

"I change not!"

Genesis 4:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵"And the Lord said to him, 'Therefore, whoever kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him **sevenfold**.' And the Lord set a **mark** on Cain, lest anyone finding him should kill him."



Genesis 4:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶"Then Cain went out from the presence of the Lord and dwelt in the land of Nod on the east of Eden."



THE EARTH CURSED CAIN

THE EARTH REFUSED TO YIELD ITS STRENGTH

2 Chronicles 7:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴"If my people who are called by name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins and will heal their land."



- Many do not understand these spiritual principles.
 - Sin effects the Land (ground)
 - Sin effects the weather (not your SUV)

THE EARTH WAS CREATED IN RIGHTEOUSNES & HOLINESS

THE EARTH IS **DESTINED TO WORK IN** RIGHTEOUSNESS

Psalm 90:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷"And let the **beauty** of the Lord our God be upon us, and **establish** the work of our hands <u>for us</u>; **yes, establish** the work of our hands."



UNRIGHTEOUSNESS WILL EFFECT THE YIELDING GOD HAS ORDAINED IN THE EARTH

TITHING RECONNECTS US TO TRUSTING THE KINGDOM OF GOD'S SUPERNATURAL ECONOMY OF

INCREASE

• Tithing is <u>not</u> about our performance...

TITHING IS ABOUT PUTTING OUR FAITH IN HIS GRACE

TITHING IS HONORING THE LORD WITH THE FIRST FRUITS OF OUR INCREASE!

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS A KINGOM OF INCREASE!

• When we are <u>not</u> under the umbrella of His grace...

 ...there is a 'dog-fight' to make a living in this world's economy. The world <u>without</u> Christ is operating under the curse of the Fall

 The curse of darkness <u>is</u> present around us everyday. We need God's hand resting on our finances

 When we do <u>not</u> tithe and give offerings we rob His grace from **resting** on our finances

Malachi 3:10 (KJV)

¹⁰"'Bring all the tithes into the **storehouse**, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,' says the Lord of hosts. 'If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it."



The Storehouse is the local church:

- Where we are fed
- There should be spiritual food in this house due to our giving

The Question was:

– "How shall we return to the Lord?"

• The **Answer** is:

- "Bring all the tithes into the storehouse..."
- "...that there may be food in My house."

Malachi 3:6-11 (KJV)

10"'Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,' says the Lord of hosts. 'If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it."



²"Thus speaks the Lord of hosts, saying: '<u>This people says</u>, "The time has not come, the time that the Lord's house should be built.""

³"Then the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet, saying,"

4"'Is it time for yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this temple to lie in ruins?'"

⁵"Now therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts; 'Consider your ways!'"



6"'You have sown much, and bring in little; you eat, but do not have enough; you drink, but you are not filled with drink; you clothe yourselves, but no one is warm, and he who earns wages, earns wages to put into a bag with holes."



Haggai 2:18-19 (NKJV)

18""Consider now from this day forward from the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, from the day the foundation of the Lord's temple was laid—consider it."

Haggai 2:18-19 (NKJV)

¹⁹"Is the seed still in the barn? As yet the vine, the fig tree, the pomegranate, and the olive tree have not yielded fruit. But from this day I will bless you."



Malachi 3:6-11 (KJV)

10"'Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,' says the Lord of hosts. 'If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it."



TITHING IS A TEST OF OUR FAITH IS GOD OUR SOURCE?

TEST ME? PROVE ME? ONTHIS

SEE IF I WON'T OPENTHE WINDOWS OF HEAVEN

SEE IF I WON'T REBUKETHE DEVOURER

Malachi 3:6-11 (KJV)

11"'And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,' says the Lord of hosts."



- "I've <u>never</u> seen anyone get close to God and quit tithing..."
- ...but I've seen people walk away from God and quit tithing...
- ...I've never seen an exception to this."

- Duane Sheriff

 You can get more blessing by honoring the Lord w/ 10% and Him blessing 90%

 Then holding onto 100% and let the devourer destroy our fruit.

- When we hang on due to...
 - Greed
 - Fear
 - Unbelief

• ...the devourer (god of mammon) takes it

 God will bless your 90% more than you can bless your 100%

 We must let unplug from every religious teaching from Malachi 3 and see:

"THIS IS AWESOME"

GOD TESTED ABRAHAM ISAAC WAS ATITHE

TO REAP MANY NATIONS

Genesis 22:2 (KJV)

²"Then He said, 'Take now your son, **your only son Isaac**, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.'"



Genesis 22:12 (KJV)

¹²"And He said, 'Do nor lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld **your only son**, from Me.'"



Genesis 22:16 (KJV)

¹⁶"And said: 'By Myself I have sworn,' says the Lord, 'because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son.'"



GOD TESTED JOSHUA JERICHO WAS ATITHE

TO REAP

THE SPOILS OFALL OTHER CITIES

Joshua 6:17-19 (KJV)

¹⁷"Now the city shall be doomed by the Lord to destruction, it and all who are in it. Only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all who are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent."



Joshua 6:17-19 (KJV)

¹⁸"And you, by all means abstained from the accursed things, lest you become accursed when you take the accursed things, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it."



Joshua 6:17-19 (KJV)

¹⁹"But all the silver and gold, and vessels of bronze and iron, are consecrated to the Lord; they shall come into the treasury of the Lord."



GOD TESTED PHARAOH ISRAELWAS ATITHE

TO REAP ALL NATIONS

Exodus 4:22-23 (KJV)

²²"Then you shall say to Pharaoh, "Thus says the Lord: 'Israel is My son, My firstborn.'""



Exodus 4:22-23 (KJV)

²³"'So I say to you, let My son go that he may serve Me. But if you refuse to let him go, indeed I will kill your son, your firstborn."

Jeremiah 2:3 (KJV)

³"Israel was holiness to the Lord, **the firstfruits of His increase**. All that devour him will offend; disaster will come upon them,' says the Lord."



GOD TESTED THE WORLD JESUS WAS ATITHE

TO REAP

THE WORLD

TITHING IS

MORE THAN MONEY

TITHING IS A PRINCIPLE OF

HIS KINGDOM

TITHING IS CONNECTING TO GOD AS

OUR SOURCE

AND HIM INCREASING
THE HARVEST

 God will bless your 90% more than you can bless your 100%

 We must let unplug from every religious teaching from Malachi 3 and see:

"THIS IS AWESOME"

Malachi 3:11 (KJV)

11"'And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,' says the Lord of hosts."



 This does not dismiss my authoritative responsibility of rebuking the devil under grace

I still must submit to God and resist the devil

ENGAGE w/ ME IN YOUR FINANCES I WILL REBUKE THE DESTROYER OF

THE FRUIT OF YOUR GROUND

CONNECT ME TO YOUR TITHING

YOUR SED WILL MULTIPLY

NOTHING WILL FALL

BEFORE ITS TIME

REBUKE THE DEVOURER FROM STEALING YOUR

INVESTMENTS

FROM DEVOURING

YOUR LAND

I WILL DEAL WITH THE DEVIL IN THE AREA OF YOUR

TREASURERS

WE ARE BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING! TO ESTABLISH HIS COVENANT!!

Malachi 3:12 (KJV)

¹²"And all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land,' says the Lord of hosts."



3 John 1:4 (KJV)

⁴"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in Truth."

