

1. The Windows of Heaven Malachi 3:6-11

3-5-17

1. **Psalm 115:12-14 v12-13** a great desire of the Lord is to bless us; **v14** to give us increase more and more, both we and our children; do you get it; **this is not automatic, there are things we must do**
2. **Proverbs 3:9-10** putting God first; this is a spiritual law – this is one way to honor the Lord; in giving our first priority is to take care of His priorities; if we bless His work and you will be blessed
 - a. **(Matthew 6:33 S1)** God established laws; spiritual and natural – they are the same for all
 - b. God’s financial plans operate under strict rules, just like a bank; obey them and be blessed; reject them and your finances will never be what He wants them to be
 - c. God’s financial plans for His children have a two fold purpose: To finance the proclamation of the Gospel; To provide for our financial needs, **the tithe blesses you**
 - d. You do not operate in God’s financial plan as an obligation or in order to get things. You do it because you love the Lord; you know what He has done for you and you want others blessed
 - This was always to be the case; Abraham & Jacob; **Christians need to know the Word**
3. **Malachi 3:6-11 v6-7** over and over the Jews backslid, because God is love, He is patient with them; but He wants them to look at their disobedience in biblical finances, what it does and change it
 - a. **v8** ‘robbed’ if you are not a tither you are a God robber; you could not be a robber if the tithe was not God’s; by not tithing, you are not helping support the Lord’s work, nor can you be blessed
 - **(3 John 2; Luke 12:32; Psalm 35:27 S2)** you rob God of His ability to bless you
 - b. **v9** ‘cursed’ it is a curse not having enough money; God does not curse you, you curse yourself; God is not a curser, He is a Blessor
 - c. **v10** bring all the tithes into the ‘storehouse’ the church; ‘food’ where people are fed spiritually; this is incredibly important to the Lord; **when people have no Word they’re at mercy of devil**
 - ‘try’ prove or test; money has a huge place in people’s heart; the Lord challenges us to tithe and see if tithing is a blessing in your life – this is the only time in the Bible this is done
 - ‘windows of heaven’ Noah’s flood is the only other time this phrase is used
 - ‘not be room enough’ abundance, plenty, measureless
 - d. **v11** God rebukes the devil; not the devil nor any other circumstance will steal your finances; you will be successful and prosper financially
 - e. **You can tithe and not be blessed; by not putting God first & by not tithing in faith**
 - when you tithe God sends a financial blessing immediately; the devil will rob your tithe unless you give in faith, “In the name of Jesus I believe...” **(Hebrews 10:23 S3)**

4. **Deuteronomy 26:1-11** Tithing Chapter; (if the tithe were just a matter of giving out of obligation {law}; then why would the Lord give the following procedure to worship Him & joyously tithe)
- a. The Law to teach us what to do and what not to do; what not to do because sin will destroy your life (God doesn't do this); what to do - the tithe is something you should do to further the gospel and bless you financially; obey God because you love Him; **'gave, willing heart' many x in OT**
 - b. **v1** 'it shall be' this is what the Lord wants done and how He wants it done
 - when 'come into the land the Lord is giving you' Canaan is a type of BA blessings; 'when you come' the Lord desires all to be saved; He is a faithful God
 - 'when you come into....' passage about tithing – people do not tithe until BA
 - 'possess and dwell' implies time needed to know what is yours and how to receive it; It implies when you have begun to understand what the Lord Jesus did for you; it takes time to change your lifestyle and the hold money can have on you
 - 'possess' to drive out the previous tenant – the Word and faith needed to renew your mind
 - c. **v2** 'first' first fruits – the tithe; once BA, God becomes the first priority of your life, so you give Him the tithe first; the tithe represents your heart's attitude and new priorities
 - 'from the land...is giving you' He gives you what you need so that you have the means to tithe – job, talents, skill, ideas; finances His way; start where you are
 - 'chooses to make His name abide' a church where His work is truly done; not all Churches; where the Word is taught, BHS, power of God, exuberant P&W; fellowship
 - d. **v3** 'the one who is priest in these days' Jesus is our High Priest (**Hebrews 3:1**) now – confess to Him in faith that you are BA and all of the BA blessings are yours
 - 'say' T involves saying; declaration of faith, love and gratitude to God for all He has done
 - 'I declare today...' once BA a revelation of truth has come – excited about giving
 - e. **v4** the Lord Jesus in turn takes our tithe (**Hebrews 7:8**); He really takes our love, faith and desire to see His work done and presents them to the Father – we are blessed because our desires are His

<p>Hebrews 7:8 Here mortal men receive tithes, but there he receives them, of whom it is witnessed that he lives. The passage is about Melchizedek who is a type of Jesus, represents Him</p>
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- ministers use the tithe in the natural to finance the gospel; the Lord uses your faith and love; **either way you are ultimately giving to God**

- f. **v5-11** profession of faith
 - **v5-7** where you came from – the Lord heard our desperation
 - **v8-9** the Lord saved us and brought us into the Kingdom of God
 - **v10** worship Lord with tithe
 - **v11** rejoice in all He has done for you

