



### ***What's In It For Me (Part 1)***

**Malachi 3:6-12**

*Pastor Dan West Coast Church.com*

*Objective Sentence: Everyone should tithe because of the promised blessings associated with giving.*

***Introduction:*** When Pauline Eason was alive I used to visit and check on her from time to time. If she missed a Sunday service before I'd go by her house and every time with fail, before I left the house she would always say, "Wait a minute son, I need to give you my tithe check." She told me how she did not tithe for years and what happened in her life after she began tithing. Miss Pauline lost her husband when she was 37 seven years old and was raising three kids by herself. She went to work in the cafeteria of the High School and had to borrow a little money from her brother and sister-in-law John and Pauline every month to get by. One particular Sunday as Pastor Blackburn was teaching the Lord dealt with her about honoring him with her tithe. So, even though it seemed impossible for her to do, she began giving ten percent of her income to the Lord. Something amazing happened, a miracle—from the moment she began to tithe she never had to borrow another dime from her family to get through the month. Miss Pauline learned that 90% of what she earned with God's blessing on it went further than 100% of what she earned without His blessing.

When we started raising money for our building fund I made this statement: The question we must ask ourselves today is not how much our addition will cost, but how much we will lose if we do not expand for the growth we are experiencing today. And the question you should ask about tithing is not what you will have to give, but what you are going to lose if you do not tithe.

- #1. Provision** (*Mal 3:10* Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.)
- A. Norman Robertson:** *Our money is an essential part of worship. When we give it to God, we are giving an important part of ourselves. We are giving our skills, our talents,*

*our time, and our strength. Our attitude towards money reveals our attitude towards God.*

1. **Bring all the tithe** (**Mal. 3:10** *Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,* says the LORD Almighty, *“and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it*)
  - a. **Deut. 14:22-23 (NKJV)** tithe ... that you may learn to fear *Message Bible:* Make an offering of ten percent, a tithe, of all the produce which grows in your fields year after year. Bring this into the Presence of God, your God at the place he designates for worship and there eat the tithe from your grain, wine, and oil and the firstborn from your herds and flocks. In this way you will learn to live in deep reverence before God, your God, as long as you live.
  - b. **Num. 18:8** The LORD spoke to Aaron: “Here, I Myself have also given you charge of My heave offerings, all the holy gifts of the children of Israel; I have given them as a portion to you and your sons, as an ordinance forever. (Tithing is Forever)
  - c. *Rev. Paul Settle:* Our faithful stewardship brings rich rewards from God. He promises that when we bring all the tithes to Him, He will bless us, and with this promise He actually invites us to prove Him.
  - d. **Ps. 37:23-25** The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD, And He delights in his way. <sup>24</sup> Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; for the LORD upholds *him* with His hand. <sup>25</sup> I have been young, and *now* am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his descendants begging bread.
  - e. *Watchman Nee:* God is so wealthy that His chief delight is to give. His treasure-stores are so full that it is pain to Him when we refuse Him an opportunity of lavishing those treasures upon us. It gives God true joy when we just let Him give and give and give again to us.
  - f. **Pro. 11:24-25** There is *one* who scatters, yet increases more; and there is *one* who withholds more than is right, But it *leads* to poverty. <sup>25</sup> The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself
  - g. *Pastor Dan:* You’ve heard it said or may have even said it yourself—all the church wants is our money. That is not true; we do not want the income God said you can keep; we want what God has commanded you to give so that we can do what God has commanded us to do.
  - h. *Pastor Dan:* *The true value of a person is not determined by how much wealth he or she accumulates but by how much of it, and how much of his or her life is invested into God’s Kingdom through giving (Ja.1:19).*
  - h. **Pro. 3:5-9** Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; <sup>6</sup> in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. <sup>7</sup> Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil. <sup>8</sup> This will bring health to your body and nourishment (strength) to your bones. <sup>9</sup> Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; <sup>10</sup> then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will overflow with new wine .
  - i. *Eerdmans:* The Bible teaches that we should bring all of the tithe or the whole tithe, not merely a portion of it as an offering to the Lord. God is not served with

partial service. The tithes were brought to the temple, and laid up in the chambers so that they who minister about holy things may live of the things of the temple.

- j. **Matt. 6:19-21** Do not lay up treasures for yourselves ...

*Unknown Author:* "Go give to the needy sweet charity's bread;

For giving is living," the angel said.

"And must I be giving again and again?"

My peevish, petulant (huffy, irritable) answer ran.

"Oh, no," said the angel, piercing me through

Just give till the Master stops giving to you."

## 2. **Open heaven's windows** (**Lu 6:38** *it will be given*)

- a. *Oral Roberts; Miracle of Seed Faith:* Jesus taught the principle of giving and sowing and reaping in **Luke 6:38**. The implication is that it is more productive to give than to receive because what we receive is not multiplied back into our lives, only what we give. The seeds we receive and eat and keep in our hand do not reproduce until we give them to the ground from where they came.
- b. *Napoleon Hill:* **Gal. 6:7-9** The Law of Compensation ensures that everything you do will bring you some sort of result of the same kind.
- c. **Mal. 3:10** *Pastor Dan:* Giving opens the windows of God's supply. If we fail to give than God's supernatural blessing is not available to us. We will be on our own.
- d. *Richard J. Foster:* Giving with glad and generous hearts has a way of routing out the tough old miser within us. Even the poor need to know that they can give. Just the very act of letting go of money, or some other treasure, does something within us. It destroys the demon of greed.
- e. *Norman Robertson:* The tithe is always ten-percent. **Leviticus 27:30** says, "And concerning the tithe of the herd or the flock, or whatever passes under the rod, the tenth one shall be holy to the Lord." It is easy to prove from God's Word that the tithe is exactly ten percent. Comparing two Scriptures. They both speak of the same event: Melchizedek's meeting with Abraham—**Gen. 14:20** And Abraham gave Melchizedek a tithe of all. **Heb. 7:4** Now consider how great this man Melchizedek was, to whom even the patriarch Abraham gave a tenth of the spoils. It is important to realize the tithe isn't an optional amount of money. It is a specific amount.
- f. **3 Jn. 2** I wish above all things **Ps. 84:11** No good thing will He withhold from those who walk upright (**Deut. 8:11-18** God gives you the power to get wealth).
- g. *Oral Roberts; Miracle of Seed Faith:* We live in a people-run society and business community, and it is easy to get the idea that people are the source of your supply. This is where you miss the truth of God's Holy Word. He often uses people as the means but God Himself is the Source of your supply. All other sources are instruments only. The number of possible channels through which God works is unlimited but there is only one source.
- h. **Phil. 4:19; Pro. 22:4**

*Closing and Invitation: Howard Dayton:* Our checkbooks tell us more about our priorities than does anything else. It tells of our values, how much we save, what we spend, to whom we give. That's why Jesus talked so much about money. Sixteen of the 38 parables were concerned with how to handle money and possessions. Indeed, Jesus Christ said more about money than about almost any other subject. The Bible offers 500 verses on prayer, fewer than 500 verses on faith, but more than 2,350 verses on money and possessions. The Lord said a lot about it because He wants us to know His perspective on this critical area of life. He dealt with money matters because money does matter.