



The Moment of Truth

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Malachi 3:7-12 NIV

Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord Almighty. But you ask, 'How are we to return?'

'Will a mere mortal rob God?' Yet you rob me. But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?' In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. 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. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe,' says the Lord Almighty. 'Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,' says the Lord Almighty.

Tithing 101

1. What exactly is tithing?

Tithing comes from a Hebrew word that literally means one tenth. The practice of tithing is giving _____ of my income back to God.

2. Why did God institute the tithe?

The practice of tithing serves as a _____ of trust and obedience.

3. How seriously does God take the practice of tithing?

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house."

You can't give something that isn't yours to begin with...you can only bring or return it to its rightful owner.

Exodus 23:19a NIV

"Bring the best of the firstfruits of your soil to the house of the Lord your God."

4. What if I am unable to tithe?

*But you ask, "How are we robbing you?" In tithes and offerings. **You are under a curse--your whole nation--because you are robbing me.** Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house.*

Tithing breaks the _____ and releases God's _____ and _____.

'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.' (ie. Provision)

'I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe,' says the LORD Almighty. (ie. Protection).

Next Steps:

Total Giving \$\$ divided by Total Income \$\$ = _____ % giving

S.O.S. Prayer:

Soften our hearts

Open our eyes

Strengthen our obedience