

Giving In



Malachi 3:7-15

Malachi 3:7-15 New Living Translation (NLT)

⁷ Ever since the days of your ancestors, you have scorned my decrees and failed to obey them. Now return to me, and I will return to you," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies.

"But you ask, 'How can we return when we have never gone away?'

⁸ "Should people cheat God? Yet you have cheated me!

"But you ask, 'What do you mean? When did we ever cheat you?'

"You have cheated me of the tithes and offerings due to me.

⁹ You are under a curse, for your whole nation has been cheating me. ¹⁰ Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies, "I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test! ¹¹ Your crops will be abundant, for I will guard them from insects and disease. Your grapes will not fall from the vine before they are ripe," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies. ¹² "Then all nations will call you blessed, for your land will be such a delight," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies.

¹³ "You have said terrible things about me," says the LORD.

"But you say, 'What do you mean? What have we said against you?'

¹⁴ "You have said, 'What's the use of serving God? What have we gained by obeying his commands or by trying to show the LORD of Heaven's Armies that we are sorry for our sins? ¹⁵ From now on we will call the arrogant blessed. For those who do evil get rich, and those who dare God to punish them suffer no harm.'"

Three Things To Answer



∞ Why Do We Give?

∞ How Do We Give?

∞ What Are The Results of Giving or Not Giving?

Why Do We Give?



 God has commanded us

Why Do We Give?



☞ God has commanded us

☞ The principle was first set up by Abraham (Genesis 14:20)

Why Do We Give?



- ☞ God has commanded us
- ☞ The principle was first set up by Abraham (Genesis 14:20)
- ☞ It was continued by Jacob (Genesis 28:20)

Why Do We Give



It was then made an ordinance by God to Israel

Why Do We Give?



∞ It was then made an ordinance by God to Israel

∞ Leviticus 27:30-32 (NLT)

∞ 30 "One-tenth of the produce of the land, whether grain from the fields or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord and must be set apart to him as holy. 31 If you want to buy back the Lord's tenth of the grain or fruit, you must pay its value, plus 20 percent. 32 Count off every tenth animal from your herds and flocks and set them apart for the Lord as holy.

Why Do We Give?



✧ Matthew 23:23 (NLT)

✧ 23 “What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but you ignore the more important aspects of the law—justice, mercy, and faith. You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things.”

Why Do We Give?



- ☞ Tithes were given to support the Levites who were in charge of the temple and ministering before the Lord

Why Do We Give?



- ∞ Tithes were given to support the Levites who were in charge of the temple and ministering before the Lord
- ∞ They were not giving land with the rest of Israel, their inheritance was the privilege of ministering before God and Israel

Why Do We Give?

Numbers 18:20-24 (NLT)

20 And the Lord said to Aaron, "You priests will receive no allotment of land or share of property among the people of Israel. I am your share and your allotment. 21 As for the tribe of Levi, your relatives, I will compensate them for their service in the Tabernacle. Instead of an allotment of land, I will give them the tithes from the entire land of Israel. 22 "From now on, no Israelites except priests or Levites may approach the Tabernacle. If they come too near, they will be judged guilty and will die. 23 Only the Levites may serve at the Tabernacle, and they will be held responsible for any offenses against it. This is a permanent law for you, to be observed from generation to generation. The Levites will receive no allotment of land among the Israelites, 24 because I have given them the Israelites' tithes, which have been presented as sacred offerings to the Lord. This will be the Levites' share. That is why I said they would receive no allotment of land among the Israelites."

Why Do We Give?



- ❧ The same principle still applies today for those who minister for the Lord
- ❧ 1 Timothy 5:17-18 (NLT)
- ❧ ¹⁷ Elders who do their work well should be respected and paid well, especially those who work hard at both preaching and teaching. ¹⁸ For the Scripture says, “You must not muzzle an ox to keep it from eating as it treads out the grain.” And in another place, “Those who work deserve their pay!”

Why Do We Give?



⌘ This is how ministers still provide for their families

Why Do We Give?



- ☞ This is how ministers still provide for their families
- ☞ Bi-vocational pastoring is time consuming and exhausting.

Why Do We Give?



- ⌘ This is how ministers still provide for their families
- ⌘ Bi-vocational pastoring is time consuming and exhausting.
- ⌘ It can ruin family life

Why Do We Give?



Some may say, "God will provide for the pastor"

Why Do We Give?



Some may say, "God will provide for the pastor"

Nehemiah 13:10 (NLT)

10 I also discovered that the Levites had not been given their prescribed portions of food, so they and the singers who were to conduct the worship services had all returned to work their fields.

Why Do We Give?



∞ 2016's economy means that money is needed for the Lord's work

Why Do We Give?



- ∞ 2016's economy means that money is needed for the Lord's work
- ∞ Money is needed for utilities, insurance, curriculum for various ministries, maintenance, etc.

Why Do We Give?



- ❧ 2016's economy means that money is needed for the Lord's work
- ❧ Money is needed for utilities, insurance, curriculum for various ministries, maintenance, etc.
- ❧ Never forget, money is needed for reaching out to our community

Why Do We Give?



- ☞ Tithes and offering are specifically designed for growing God's Kingdom and taking care of the shepherd, but never for growing a man's kingdom

Why Do We Give?



- ∞ Tithes and offering are specifically designed for growing God's Kingdom and taking care of the shepherd, but never for growing a man's kingdom
- ∞ 2 Corinthians 2:17 (NLT)
- ∞ 17 You see, we are not like the many hucksters who preach for personal profit. We preach the word of God with sincerity and with Christ's authority, knowing that God is watching us.

How Do We Give?



⌘ How we give is just as important as that we give

How Do We Give?



- ☞ How we give is just as important as that we give
- ☞ Tithe – The first 10% of our income

How Do We Give?



- ∞ How we give is just as important as that we give
- ∞ Tithe – The first 10% of our income
- ∞ Offering – Gifts above that first 10%

How Do We Give?



☞ Are offerings mandatory? Does God require offerings like He does our tithe?

How Do We Give?



- ❧ Are offering mandatory? Does God require offerings like He does our tithe?
- ❧ Yes, if God can be robbed of offerings, then it means He expects offerings
- ❧ “You have cheated me of the tithes and offerings due to me” Malachi 3:8b

How Do We Give?



 We give both tithes and offerings

How Do We Give?



- ☞ We give both tithes and offerings
- ☞ We give our offerings within our means

How Do We Give?



- ☞ We give both tithes and offerings
- ☞ We give our offerings within our means
- ☞ Leviticus 14:30-31 (NLT)
- ☞ 30 “Then the priest will offer the two turtledoves or the two young pigeons, whichever the person can afford.

How Do We Give?



☞ Luke 21:1-4 (NLT)

☞ 21 While Jesus was in the Temple, he watched the rich people dropping their gifts in the collection box. 2 Then a poor widow came by and dropped in two small coins. 3 "I tell you the truth," Jesus said, "this poor widow has given more than all the rest of them. 4 For they have given a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she has."

How Do We Give?



✧ Jesus praised the widow for giving her best

How Do We Give?



- ✧ Jesus praised the widow for giving her best
- ✧ Jesus condemned the stinginess of those who could have given more

How Do We Give?



- ☞ Jesus praised the widow for giving her best
- ☞ Jesus condemned the stinginess of those who could have given more
- ☞ We can give or tithe and still be guilty of greed

How Do We Give?



☞ With greater abundance should come a greater willingness to give

☞ Exodus 35:22 (NLT)

☞ 22 Both men and women came, all whose hearts were willing. They brought to the Lord their offerings of gold—brooches, earrings, rings from their fingers, and necklaces. They presented gold objects of every kind as a special offering to the Lord.

How Do We Give?

❧ Being poor or tight this month is never going to be an excuse with God

❧ 2 Corinthians 8:1-5 (NLT)

❧ 8 Now I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, what God in his kindness has done through the churches in Macedonia. 2 They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity. 3 For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford, but far more. And they did it of their own free will. 4 They begged us again and again for the privilege of sharing in the gift for the believers in Jerusalem. 5 They even did more than we had hoped, for their first action was to give themselves to the Lord and to us, just as God wanted them to do.

How Do We Give?



 Giving is done by faith

How Do We Give?



- ☞ Giving is done by faith
- ☞ We must believe God can do more with our 90% than we can with 100%

How Do We Give?



☞ Giving is done by faith

☞ We must believe God can do more with our 90% than we can with 100%

☞ To believe even our two mites can be multiplied to build His Kingdom

How Do We Give?



☞ 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (NLT)

☞ 6 Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. 7 You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully." 8 And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.

How Do We Give?



- ☞ Two very important truths
- ☞ Do not be afraid to give (God promised to take care of you)

How Do We Give?



- ☞ Two very important truths
- ☞ Do not be afraid to give (God promised to take care of you)
- ☞ Do not let a man coerce you into giving (Give must come from the heart as an act of thanksgiving and worship)

How Do We Give?



- ☞ Be cheerful when you give, don't do it grudgingly

How Do We Give?



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- ☞ Obedience without love is fear

How Do We Give?



- ☞ Be cheerful when you give, don't do it grudgingly
- ☞ Obedience without love is fear
- ☞ We give to God because we love Him and want His Kingdom to expand

How Do We Give?



Do not give to get

Giving to get is either buying or bribing

How Do We Give?



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- ∞ Don't desire praise (Matthew 6:1-4)

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- ∞ Giving to get is either buying or bribing
- ∞ Don't desire praise (Matthew 6:1-4)
- ∞ Don't give to get your own way

How Do We Give?



- ☞ When we give out of love and a pure heart it does two things:
- ☞ Keeps us content (1 Timothy 6:6)

How Do We Give?



- ☞ When we give out of love and a pure heart it does two things
- ☞ Keeps us content (1 Timothy 6:6)
- ☞ Keeps us from greed (Ecclesiastes 5:10)

The Results



∞ First, no where in the Bible does it say God will give you back 10x's what you gave

The Results



- ∞ First, no where in the Bible does it say God will give you back 10x's what you gave
- ∞ God does want us to sow liberally for His Kingdom, not ours

The Results



∞ God doesn't need our money, He desires our obedience

∞ "All the cattle are Mine" (Psalm 50)

"All the gold and silver is Mine" (Haggai 2)

The Results



- ☞ God doesn't need our money, He desires our obedience
- ☞ "All the cattle are Mine" (Psalm 50)
"All the gold and silver is Mine" (Haggai 2)
- ☞ God wants us to be a part of His work to build His Kingdom

The Results

❧ Malachi 3:9-12 (NLT)

❧ "You are under a curse, for your whole nation has been cheating me. 10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies, "I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test! 11 Your crops will be abundant, for I will guard them from insects and disease. Your grapes will not fall from the vine before they are ripe," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies. 12 "Then all nations will call you blessed, for your land will be such a delight," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies.

The Results



What are the blessings?

The Results



∞ What are the blessings?

∞ Crops in abundance, protection from insect, God would guard them (Protection and provision)

The Results



- ❧ What are the blessings?
- ❧ Crops in abundance, protection from insect, God would guard them (Protection and provision)
- ❧ The curse? No protection or provision

The Results



☞ Obedience means God's protection and provision and prosperity

The Results



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- ∞ Proverbs 11:25 (NLT)
- ∞ 25 The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.

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- ❧ Obedience means God's protection and provision and prosperity
- ❧ Proverbs 11:25 (NLT)
- ❧ 25 The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.
- ❧ 3 John 2 (AMP)
- ❧ 2 Beloved, I pray that in every way you may succeed and prosper and be in good health [physically], just as [I know] your soul prospers [spiritually].

The Results



☞ Good never promised us a ton of money, what He did tell us in Matthew 6 is He will take care of us

The Results



- ❧ Good never promised us a ton of money, what He did tell us in Matthew 6 is He will take care of us
- ❧ Proverbs 11:28 (NLT)
- ❧ 28 Trust in your money and down you go! But the godly flourish like leaves in spring.