

The Tithe: A Key to God's Blessings

Seven Blessings of the Tithe

Don't Just
Survive.
Thrive!

Two weeks ago, we learned that God delights in blessing his children. He's plan is that we thrive, not just survive.

Genesis 26:12 (ESV)
¹² And Isaac sowed in that land [of Gerar] and reaped in the same year [of draught and famine] a hundredfold. The Lord blessed him,



Pray Bold Prayers For God's Blessing!

Last week, we learned that God answers bold prayers for his blessing!

1 Chronicles 4:9-10 (ESV)

⁹ A Jabez was more honorable than his brothers; and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, "Because I bore him in pain."

¹⁰ Jabez called upon the God of Israel, saying, "Oh that you would bless me and enlarge my border, and that your hand might be with me, and that you would keep me from harm so that it might not bring me pain!" And God granted what he asked.



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Malachi 3:10-11 (ESV)

¹⁰ Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not **open the windows of heaven for you** and **pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.** ¹¹ I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and **your vine in the field shall not fail to bear,** says the LORD of hosts. ¹² Then **all nations will call you blessed,** for **you will be a land of delight,** says the LORD of hosts.

Why the Tithe?

God calls the tithe his.

Malachi 3:8 (CEV)

⁸You people are robbing me, your God. And, here you are, asking, "How are we robbing you?" You are robbing me of **the offerings and of the ten percent that belongs to me.**

As early as the Garden of Eden, God takes a part of what he gives to us as a gift to honor him and to show him obedience.



It's Not About Need

Psalm 50:10-15 (CEV)

¹⁰ Every animal in the forest belongs to me, and so do the cattle on a thousand hills. ¹¹ I know all the birds in the mountains, and every wild creature is in my care. ¹² If I were hungry, I wouldn't tell you, because I own the world and everything in it. ¹³ I don't eat the meat of bulls or drink the blood of goats.

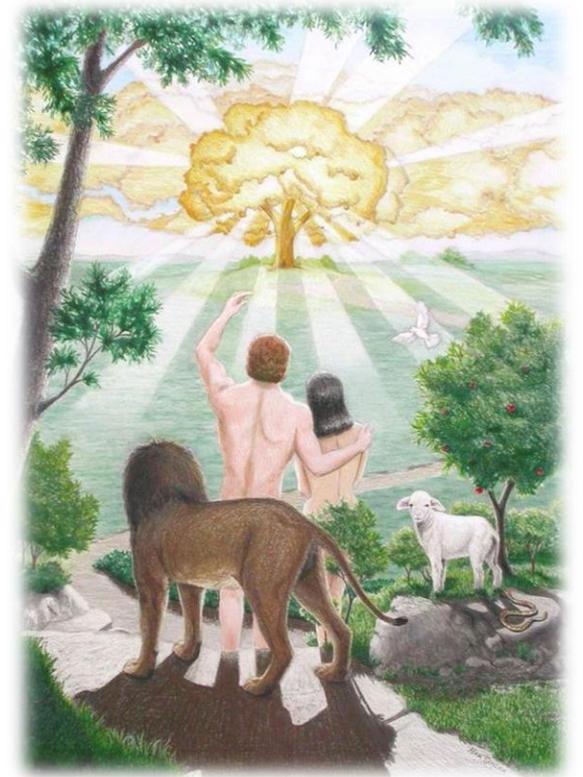
¹⁴ I am God Most High! The only sacrifice I want is for you to be thankful and to keep your word. ¹⁵ Pray to me in time of trouble. I will rescue you, and you will honor me.

It's About Honor

Proverbs 3:9 (CEV)

⁹ **Honor the Lord** with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce; ¹⁰ Then you will have more grain and grapes than you will ever need.

The tithe, just like the Tree in the Garden, gives us a choice to honor or to disregard God.



When
We Honor
God, He
honors us!

1 Samuel 2:30 (ESV)

³⁰ Therefore the Lord, the God of Israel, declares: "...**those who honor me I will honor,** and those who despise me shall be lightly esteemed."

God promises to honor those who honor him!

In the tithe, we honor God and he lists seven ways in which he will bless us in return.

**First
Blessing:
Personal
Revival**

When we tithe, God says...

1. He will open the windows of heaven for us!

Jacob was the first person in the Bible that we know experienced an open heaven (Gen. 28:10-22). This was the start of his spiritual awakening.



After being baptized in water, Jesus also experienced an open heaven (Matt. 3:16-17). This was the beginning of his ministry.

First Blessing: Personal Revival

It is interesting that the first time the phrase “windows of heaven” appears in the Bible is in the context of judgment. The windows of heaven were opened and the great flood destroyed all but Noah’s family.



Yet, when we honor God he uses even a means of judgment as an instrument of blessing in our lives!

When we tithe, God says...

2. He will pour out a blessing over us!

**Second
Blessing:
Prosperity**



God's blessing is his favor, his pre-disposition to help us, his decision that things work together for our good.

According to Proverbs 10:22, the blessing of the Lord makes us prosper.

When the blessing of God rest on us, we are showered with "random" goodness.

Third
Blessing:
Neutralize
the Enemy

When we tithe, God says...

3. He will rebuke the devourer!

The Bible warns us that the enemy prowls around seeking someone to devour (1 Pet. 5:8). The devourer is always looking for opportunities to kill, steal, and destroy (John 10:10).



God promises to rebuke the devourer when he tries to torment the tither!

**Fourth
Blessing:
A Hedge Of
Financial
Protection.**

When we tithe, God says...

4. He will not allow your work to be destroyed!

A common strategy of the enemy is to attack the harvest of God's children.

Judges 6:3-4

³ For whenever the Israelites planted crops, the Midianites and the Amalekites and the people of the East would come up against them. ⁴ They would encamp against them and devour the produce of the land, as far as Gaza, and leave no sustenance in Israel and no sheep or ox or donkey.

**Fourth
Blessing:
A Hedge Of
Financial
Protection.**



God promises that he will protect the harvest of the tither!

**Fifth
Blessing:
Family
Blessing**

When we tithe, God says...

5. He will bless the fruit of our vine!

Jesus spoke of himself as a vine and his disciples as branches. In Psalm 80:8, Israel is God's vine.

Psalm 128:3

³Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table.

Your family is your vine. And God promises to bless your family as you tithe.

**Fifth
Blessing:
Family
Blessing**

When Abraham tithed, God credited his descendants with his tithe!

Hebrews 7:9-10

⁹ One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, ¹⁰ for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him.

The tithe blesses the whole family!



**Sixth
Blessing:
A Testimony**

When we tithe, God says...

6. All nations shall call you blessed!

God's blessings on his children are a testimony to people around us. The fruit in our lives is to attract the hungry. They come to Christ, feed on the fruit, and become fruitful trees themselves.

Psalm 22:26-27

²⁶ The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord! May your hearts live forever! ²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.

Seventh Blessing: Influence

When we tithe, God says...

7. We will be a delightful land!

Early in his life, Jesus “grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor before God and man” (Luke 2:52). As we walk in God’s blessings, we become a delight to God and to people around us! This increases our influence.



Proverbs 16:7

⁷ When a man's ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him

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Here are the 7-fold blessing to the tither:

1. God will open the windows of heaven!
2. God will pour out a blessing!
3. God will rebuke the devourer!
4. God will not allow our work to be destroyed!
5. Our vine will bear fruit!
6. All nations shall call us blessed!
7. We will be a delightful land!