

We give back to God a tenth of His blessings to honor Him in appreciation for what He has given us. We also tithe to support the church to enable the church to preach and teach the gospel. The church consists of full time workers who need our financial support. Tithing also allows us as Christians to share in the harvest of the church. The Lord says to test Him in this area and He will pour out His blessings upon you. This is the only time that we are to test the Lord. Our blessings in return do not always mean financial blessings. We can be blessed in so many other areas of our life as a result of tithing. We do not give as Christians in order to seek financial returns. However, God does rebuke the devourer when we tithe, which is great protection.

- Malachi 3:7-12 Yet from the days of your fathers You have gone away from My ordinances And have not kept *them*. Return to Me, and I will return to you,” Says the LORD of hosts. “But you said, ‘In what way shall we return?’ “Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, ‘In what way have we robbed You?’ In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, *Even* this whole nation. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this,” Says the LORD of hosts, “If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you *such* blessing That *there will not be room* enough *to receive it*. “And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,” Says the LORD of hosts; “And all nations will call you blessed, For you will be a delightful land,” Says the LORD of hosts.
- 2 Cor 8:19 and not only *that*, but who was also chosen by the churches to travel with us with this gift, which is administered by us to the glory of the Lord Himself and *to show* your ready mind,
- 1 Cor 9:10-14 Or does He say *it* altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, *this* is written, that he who plows should plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope should be partaker of his hope. If we have sown spiritual things for you, *is it* a great thing if we reap your material things? If others are partakers of *this* right over you, *are* we not even more? Nevertheless we have not used this right, but endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ. Do you not know that those who minister the holy things eat *of the things* of the temple, and those who serve at the altar partake of *the offerings* of the altar? Even so the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should live from the gospel.

**Discussion Item 1:** *What is your view of tithing and why?*

**Discussion Item 2:** *If you tithe, how has your tithing produce3d good fruit?*

**Life Application:** *Evaluate why you tithe or do not tithe.*

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**Helpful Definition:**

tithe- To contribute or pay a tenth part of (one's annual income). (*Webster*)

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**Notes:**

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**Proverb 21:26** He covets greedily all day long, But the righteous gives and does not spare.

**Psalms 85:12** Yes, the LORD will give *what is* good; And our land will yield its increase.