

Tithing is the Foundation

Malachi 3:6-14 (Pew Bible page 1490)

Memory Verse:

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 you will not have room enough for it.

—Malachi 3:10

1. **Principle**—The Principle of Tithing

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

—Psalm 24:1

Malachi 3: Q & A with God.

“Return to me and I will return to you.”

How shall we return to the Lord?

“Will a man rob God?”

How do we rob you?

“You have said harsh things against me.”

What have we said against you?

2. **Practice**—The Practice of Tithing

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Tithing is the Minimum expectation for Christians.

Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

—2 Corinthians 9:7

3. **Practical**—Tithing is **Practical**

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

—Malachi 3:10a

Simple—a Nickel a hoagie (10%)

Fair—proportionate giving, widow and wealthy the same (10%)

Works—I have never heard a tither say, God did not meet their needs.

4. **Promise**—Tithing Carries a **Promise**.

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 you will not have room enough for it.

—Malachi 3:10b

What do I do?

1. **Take stock and repent.** Compare Paycheck to offering
2. **Seek the Lord.** What should I give or we give?
3. **Plan a course of action.** Cold turkey or incremental?

Focus on the Holy Spirit's work.

Tithing is not **brain surgery**; it is **soul searchery**.

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