## THE BEAUTY IN GIVING

1118

#### Genesis 14:11-14 (NKJV)

Then they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their provisions, and went their way. <sup>12</sup> They also took Lot, Abram's brother's son who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed. <sup>13</sup> Then one who had escaped came and told Abram the Hebrew, for he dwelt by the terebinth trees of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and brother of Aner; and they were allies with Abram. <sup>14</sup> Now when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his three hundred and eighteen trained servants who were born in his own house, and went in pursuit as far as Dan.

#### Genesis 14:15-17 (NKJV)

He divided his forces against them by night, and he and his servants attacked them and pursued them as far as Hobah, which is north of Damascus. <sup>16</sup> So he brought back all the goods, and also brought back his brother Lot and his goods, as well as the women and the people. <sup>17</sup> And the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that *is*, the King's Valley), after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him.

#### Genesis 14:18-21 (NKJV)

Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. <sup>19</sup> And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; <sup>20</sup> And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he gave him a tithe of all. <sup>21</sup> Now the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, and take the goods for yourself."

#### Genesis 14:12-24 (NKJV)

But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have raised my hand to the LORD, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth, <sup>23</sup> that I will take nothing, from a thread to a sandal strap, and that I will not take anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich'— <sup>24</sup> except only what the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men who went with me: Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion."

Tithing has the ability to change your life on this side and the other side of eternity Tithing is an invitation for us to step into a partnership with God and experience abundance on every level of our giving. Matthew 6:21 (NKJV) For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

## The average church attender gives 2.4% of their income to the church.

.8% is given by that same person to other charities.

# Salem = suffix for root word "Jeru – Salem"

## Salem = Righteousness & Peace

Just because you have stuff, doesn't mean you're blessed.

# When you tithe, you keep ownership in perspective.

Pride might be the greatest enemy of being blessed because pride makes you sufficient in yourself.

### Hebrews 7:6-8(NKJV)

...but he whose genealogy is not derived from them received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises. <sup>7</sup> Now beyond all contradiction the lesser is blessed by the better.<sup>8</sup> Here mortal men receive tithes, but there he receives them, of whom it is witnessed that he lives.

# Tithing is testimony that you believe Jesus is ALIVE!

The spirit of this world will always demand something from you.

Jesus never demands anything.

When you tithe, you keep yourself from becoming a slave to an inferior source.

# God's favor is a byproduct of your obedience.

Tithing gives you access to everything God has.

Genesis 15:1(NKJV) After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward."

Tithing never bought God, tithing opens up a place in God.

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