

Series: Treasure: What The Bible Says About Giving.

Text: Malachi 3:6-12

Main Idea: Don't rob God, trust Him.

Date: 3/3/24

Purpose: To exhort God's people to faithful giving.

FCF/COR: Selfishness is the fruit of our sin nature and is often seen in how we handle the resources and treasures God has given us. Ultimately, our tight-fistedness with money comes from fear and a lack of trust in God.

Christ Trajectory: We, like Israel, are called to respond to God and His gracious rescue of us in devotion and obedience, offering Him our entire lives, including our money and resources, to Him however He sees fit (Rom. 12:1).

Apologetic: Closed-handedness promises happiness but is a broken cistern that doesn't hold water. Life is more than food and clothing (Matt. 6:25).

Call to Worship: Isaiah 55:1-3

Benediction: Philippians 4:19-20

Structure: Inductive

Main Idea:

Subject (What is the passage about?): What has Israel done to turn from God and how can they turn back?

Complement (What does the passage say about the subject?): They have robbed God by withholding their full tithe and they can turn back by giving their full tithe and trusting in God to provide for them.

Exegetical Main Idea: Israel robbed God by withholding their full tithe and they can turn back by giving their full tithe and trusting in God to provide for them.

Theological Main Idea: Disobedience to God's commands to give is equivalent to robbing Him, and His people should obey and trust that He will provide for them.

Homiletical Main Idea: Don't rob God, trust Him.

Outline:

Text: Malachi 3:6-12

1. Being closed-handed brings condemnation (vv. 7-10a)

Leviticus 27:30-32 - ³⁰“Every tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the Lord’s; it is holy to the Lord. ³¹If a man wishes to redeem some of his tithe, he shall add a fifth to it. ³²And every tithe of herds and flocks, every tenth animal of all that pass under the herdsman’s staff, shall be holy to the Lord

Numbers 18:24 - ²⁴For the tithe of the people of Israel, which they present as a contribution to the Lord, I have given to the Levites for an inheritance. Therefore I have said of them that they shall have no inheritance among the people of Israel.”

Deut. 14:28-29 - ²⁸“At the end of every three years you shall bring out all the tithe of your produce in the same year and lay it up within your towns. ²⁹And the Levite, because he has no portion or inheritance with you, and the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, who are within your towns, shall come and eat and be filled, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands that you do.

Quote - Fries, Rummage, Gallaty - “We should not give to God because we are under obligation to tithe, we should give because He has already given us the inexpressible gift of His Son Jesus Christ.”

Romans 12:1 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

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2. Being open-handed brings provision (vv. 6, 10b-12)

Matthew 6:25-32 - ²⁵“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³²For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

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