



**December 10, 2023 | Pastor Keith Krell**  
**Malachi 3:6-12 | “Return to Me”**

**Sermon Application Review from Malachi 2:17-3:5**

In what way did you trust God’s sovereignty in your suffering this past week (2:17)?  
How did you experience the refiner’s fire (3:2)?  
Of which sin in 3:5 did the Lord convict you? How are you now walking in obedience?

**Scripture Reading**

Malachi 3:6–12  
1 Kings 17:8–16  
Proverbs 3:5–10; 11:24  
Matthew 6:19–24  
Luke 18:18–23; 19:8–10  
1 Corinthians 16:1–3  
1 Timothy 6:17–19

**Study Questions**

1. How have you experienced God’s covenantal faithfulness (3:6)? What does God’s plea for His people to return to Him tell you about God (3:7)? Read Hosea 14:1–4. What does this passage teach about returning to God? What are some barriers that prevent you from returning to the Lord? How does God’s kindness lead you to repentance (Romans 2:4)?
2. How might your circumstances tempt you to rob God (3:8)? How does the robbery metaphor teach us to view our wealth and resources? Read Psalm 24:1. If giving can serve as a barometer of love for God, how do you feel you are doing?
3. What are some ways God’s work could be advanced by more generous giving (3:10)? How can you “free up” more of your money for the Lord’s work?
4. How have you been the recipient of God’s gracious provision or protection (3:10–11)? In what ways have you experienced God’s goodness and faithfulness in response to your giving (e.g., physically, mentally, emotionally, financially, spiritually)?
5. What kind of witness is your giving to those around you (3:12)? How is God the perfect example of giving? Read Romans 8:32; 1 Timothy 6:17; and James 1:17. What can you do to follow the Lord’s example?

**Recommended Reading**

David A. Croteau, *You Mean I Don’t Have to Tithe?* (Pickwick, 2010)  
Randy Alcorn, *Money, Possessions, & Eternity* (Tyndale, [1989] 2021)  
Gene Getz, *A Biblical Theology of Material Possessions* (Moody, 1990)  
John Cortines and Gregory Baumer, *God and Money: How We Discovered True Riches at Harvard Business School* (Rose, 2016)  
Verlyn D. Verbrugge & Keith R. Krell, *Paul & Money* (Zondervan, 2015)