



## Open - Returns and Receipts

What does it mean to be blessed?

Have you ever found yourself missing a blessing because you didn't recognize it as one?

We often focus on the financial blessing of God when we talk about Malachi 3:10 but that is short sighted. How else might we experience the blessing of God in our lives?

**Read: Malachi 3:1-12, Deuteronomy 28:1-14**

Malachi uses many of the principles taught in Deuteronomy 28, largely when we live according to God's Commands we walk in God's Blessing, when we don't we invite the curse.

How have you experienced that in your own life?

What does it mean when you are living according to God's Word but still find yourself feeling more cursed than blessed? What do you do? How do you handle it?

Jesus, Paul, and many other Bible characters have been identified as holy, and yet we know that so they all went through trials and testing. How can we tell the difference between God's refining and living in the consequences of our sin?

A very consistent theme throughout scripture is the fear of God. What is it? How do you define it?

When the fear of God is too strong we develop a religious and legalistic spirit. When it is too lax we tend to become negligent towards sin and allow ourselves to define what should be pleasing to the Lord. How do we develop a balanced approach to fear of God?

Money is always a touchy subject, but Jesus teaches on giving frequently, as does many other Biblical authors. Why does God even care about what we do with our money?

The discipline of tithing is mentioned throughout the Old Testament. In the New Testament, the standards were actually much higher in that they gave everything they had. (Book of Acts) How does tithing help us grow our faith? How has it helped you?

How can we pray for each other today?