

Order Part 2

God Owns All the Ducks

1 Corinthians 14:33 (AMP)

For He is not a God of confusion and disorder but of peace and order.

Genesis 1:2 (NKJV)

The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said...

- God is a God of order and when we submit to His Word, He brings order to chaos in every area...even finances.
- Chaos and confusion are indicators that my ducks are out of order, and I need to submit to His Word. (This might mean taking responsibility for our spending/saving habits, it might mean becoming a tither or giver.)
- Don't confuse this with materialism or hyper-prosperity. This is about us fulfilling our Kingdom purpose.

A blessed life is the one that blesses.

The Goal: *Faithful management of God's gifts, including time, talents, possessions, and resources, for the purpose of advancing God's kingdom and serving others.*

- There is a supernatural blessing attached to stewardship just like generosity.
- When you give with the right heart, God blesses you. In the same way, when you decide you will get your finances (ducks) in order, God will bless you in ways you can't imagine.

The foundation of Duck-Order is Duck-Ownership

1. It all belongs to God.

Psalm 24:1 (NLT)

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him.

Psalm 50:10-12 (NKJV)

For every beast of the forest is Mine, And the cattle on a thousand hills. ¹¹ I know all the birds of the mountains, And the wild beasts of the field are Mine. ¹² "If I were hungry, I would not tell you; For the world is Mine, and all its fullness.

- This must be a revelation we get.
- You work for it, earn it, your name is on the deed but as a believer, you understand that it ALL BELONGS to God.

- This is how you can give and not grieve. God's the owner, you are the manager. (1 Cor 9- [He gives you something you can then give away..](#))
- Some of you have this revelation, some have it a little, some don't, and some have it more than me, but we must get it. It changes everything.

God is the owner and we are His managers.

Scenario: *If I Venmo you \$100 and us some Chipotle on your way to my house. If you spend \$30 on the food and have \$70 left over, is the \$70 yours or mine? It's my money but it's in your account. I'm the owner but you are the manager. Because it's my money, I say if you see a guy who is hungry on your way, buy him a few tacos too or go grab some coffee. I can instruct you on how to spend my money in your Venmo account.*

2. The first belongs to God.

Exodus 13:1-2 (NKJV)

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ² "Consecrate to Me all the firstborn, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and beast; it is Mine."

Exodus 23:19 (NKJV)

¹⁹ The first of the firstfruits of your land you shall bring into the house of the Lord your God.

- Now, we know that it all belongs to Him, but He specifies the first part.
- Not firstfruits but the FIRST of your firstfruits.
- "Bring" implies that it's His, not mine.

Genesis 4:3-5 (NKJV)

³ And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord. ⁴ Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering, ⁵ but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.

Slide 1: OT Character Timeline	Cain and Abel	4000BC
	Abraham	2000BC
	Moses (law)	1500BC
	David	1000BC

Slide 2:	Cain and Abel	4000BC
	<u>Moses (law)</u>	<u>1500BC</u>
	2500 years	

- 2500 years before the Law, God accepted an offering because it was firstfruits, but didn't accept another offering because it was not firstfruits.

- Was murder wrong 2500 years before Law? Yes. Murder didn't become wrong when the Law was given, and tithing didn't become right when the Law was given. They have always been God's foundational principles of order.

Slide 3: Abraham (2000BC)
Moses (1500BC)
500 years

- Why would Abraham tithe 500 years before it was written? (Genesis 14) Because he knew that the first his income belonging to God was God's order for relationship.

Bringing God the first and best is love, not law.

DUCK GIVEAWAY Team distributes rubber ducks to the congregation. "God owns all of the ducks."

3. The tithe belongs to God.

- Tithe (the first and best 10%) percentages are applicable to everyone.

Illus: 10 ducks, the 1st and the best is the tithe.

Malachi 3:6-12 (NKJV)

⁶ "For I am the Lord, I do not change; Therefore, you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.
⁷ Yet from the days of your fathers You have gone away from My ordinances and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you," says the Lord of hosts. "But you said, 'In what way shall we return?' Do Not Rob God"
⁸ "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings."
⁹ You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, even this whole nation.
¹⁰ Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this," Says the Lord of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it."
¹¹ "And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field," Says the Lord of hosts;
¹² "And all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land," says the Lord of hosts.

- **My ordinances:** principles of ordinary behavior DUCKS in A ROW! Order and obedience make space in our lives for God. It gives God room to work.
- Malachi is a book about returning to God's order in our faith, family, and finances!
 - Chapter 1 – Faith; 2- Family; 3 Finances; 4 - God returns to us!
 - Tithing is an ordinance, a principle of ordinary behavior, with God!
 - Giving the first portion is ordinary behavior for redeemed people to thank God!

- This passage is so simple: If I tithe, I'm under a blessing. If I don't, I'm under a curse
- This is not just about financial ducks. It's about all your ducks. Windows of Heaven opened!!
- If it all belongs to God, why does He specify the tithe??

Deut. 14:23 TLB

The purpose of tithing is to teach you to always put God first in your lives.

- God didn't set up the tithe for His ego. He set it up for our ego.
- Bringing the first duck requires faith. Every payday, we get to tell God, "I trust you."
- If 80% of Christians don't tithe, what are they saying to God every time they get paid?
- How effective are believers at connecting God's Supply with the World's Needs if only 20% of them put God first?
- Putting God first opens the Windows of Heaven. Kingdom come on earth as it is Heaven!

The tithe defines if we are owners or stewards.

- When we are owners, we're responsible for all the provision and direction, resulting in all the physical and mental stress rampant among owners. When we live as stewards, the pressure is on Him, and life is simpler.

Ex. Adam and Eve moved from stewards to owners. What happened? Chaos!
 Jesus never took ownership of His life. What happened? Order!

RESPONSE:

*Need to move from owner to steward today? Feeling the pressure of ownership? Want your life to be an open Heaven to the world? **Return to Me, and I will return to you...***

90 Day tithing challenge.