



# KEYS OF THE KINGDOM

Keys Of The Kingdom Series

Part 8

February 19, 2023

Kingdom Partnership

Malachi 3:6-12, <sup>6</sup>“For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. <sup>7</sup>From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. But you say, ‘How shall we return?’ <sup>8</sup>Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, ‘How have we robbed you?’ In your tithes and contributions. <sup>9</sup>You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. <sup>10</sup>Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that

there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. <sup>11</sup> I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the Lord of hosts. <sup>12</sup> Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the Lord of hosts.” May the Lord add His Blessing to the Reading and the Hearing of His Word today in Jesus Name! Amen!

Kingdom Living / Kingdom Authority / Kingdom Partnership

## 1. Citizens of the Kingdom do not Grumble about the Statutes

### Established by the King!

- a. Church, Serving and Giving are both biblical principles found throughout the totality of the Biblical text. Jesus expects us to Serve and He expects us to Give.
- b. Tithing is a Biblical Principle that was introduced in the Book of Genesis with Abraham giving ten percent of all that he recovered from war to the King of Salem, Melchizedek.

- c. There are those who claim that tithing is a part of the law of Moses and thus is now moot because we are and I quote, “no longer under the law, but under grace.”
- d. Church, there may be those who seek to worm their way out of the expectation of Scripture but will not be counted amongst their ranks. We will collectively strive to exceed Biblical expectation with the Lord’s help and not strive to find loop holes to justify our rebellion.
- e. Tithing predates the introduction of the Law of Moses though the Law of Moses included tithing as a principle of the Nation of Israel managing its resources and honoring the Lord in their increase.
- f. The truth of the matter is simply this... I’ve never had a tither argue against tithing; but I’ve dealt with plenty of non-tithers who give little to anything to the church and yet seek to argue against tithing to the Nth degree.
- g. Friends, tithing and giving is a heart issue just as all other matters of the faith; generosity is a byproduct of a redeemed heart. Thus, if there is not a spirit of generosity then your heart needs to be redeemed. You cannot say that you are benevolent nor generous if you do not tithe (REPEAT)

- h. Being faithful in your tithe is the acid test of generosity in sight of the Kingdom and is an elementary thing of the Faith when it comes to matters of life and godliness.
- i. The Lord commanded the Nation of Israel to sow financially with resources and manpower to support the building of the tabernacle as well as to provide means of support for the priesthood to tend to the expectations outlined in the Law of Moses regarding sin and sacrifice.
- j. The Nation did not grumble over this expectation because the Glory of the Lord was there and they saw the value of investing into the work of the Lord!
- k. And friends, the Glory of the Lord is in this place and our hearts should be that of the Israelites; we should see the value of investing in the Work of the Lord and supporting this House with our substance!
- l. Remember that Citizens of the Kingdom do not Grumble about the Statutes Established by the King! It's His Kingdom and not our own... Point #2...



## 2. Citizens of the Kingdom Trust the King that His Established

Leadership will be Held Accountable for their Management of All of the Resources of the Lord's House!

- a. Friends I am smart enough to know and understand that corruption exists and that there have been those who have abused their offices for corrupt gain; we see this in government and politics as well as concerning matters of religion.
- b. But Church, I am assured that for every corrupt leader, there are many thousands that have never committed unethical or unbiblical acts that sadly are stuck with dealing with the repercussions of actions that were not their own.
- c. And, lest I fail to remind us all, there is a judgment day that is coming and the righteous judge will have the last word when it comes to matters of sin, ethics, and misuse of authority.
- d. With all of this in mind, ultimately it is our responsibility as followers of Christ to give financially and support, with our willingness to serve, the commission of Christ and it is Christ who will be the one who ultimately holds leadership accountable for the management and usage of said giving. True leadership is accountable to Christ and to His Church; of such leadership I have truly strove to model in every way.

- e. I have strived, during my tenure here as your Pastor, alongside my board, to establish stronger, more stringent and effective means of managing, tracking, and utilizing the financial resources of this house to accomplish our mission, meet our debt obligations, and put our financial footing at the strongest place possible with all of this being done to ensure our short-term and long-term viability and strength as a Church and as an Institution.
- f. And it is these policies and procedures that have helped us to not only recover from a difficult season but to recover to a place of being strong and being healthy. All of this has been made possible by two basic factors: your continued support and our diligence as the leadership of this great church to manage our resources well.
- g. Without your support, the Church cannot prosper and facilitate the Great Commission! Our giving collectively allows for all of the ministries and outreaches and missions support of our church to be possible; your giving individually helps us to meet the expectations of Christ for His Church!
- h. Thus I want you all to remember today that Citizens of the Kingdom Trust the King that His Established Leadership will be held accountable for their management of all of the resources of the Lord's House! In closing, Point #3...

### **3. Citizens of the Kingdom do not Struggle Against the Expectations but Strive to Exceed His Expectations!**

- a. The Law Defined Expectations but Grace Elevated the Bar!
- b. Greatness in the Kingdom is determined by our willingness to push beyond the line of expectation and excel in His Grace by going beyond the call of duty and not settling for doing just enough to meet the minimal moral or scriptural obligation of compliance.
- c. In serving Jesus, it should be our desire to exceed the expectations of Scriptures when it comes to life and living and thus in turn strive to be a blessing in supporting His Church and His Commission!
- d. When we do not facilitate His Tithe and our Contributions to His Work then we are robbing Him of the opportunity for Him to put His “Super” on our “Natural”.
- e. Could it be that we are not just robbing God of His substance but also Robbing God of the opportunity to bless you?
- f. Tithing is just as important as Prayer, Bible Reading, and Living by the Spirit; in every act we are honoring God with our time, our substance and our desires.
- g. Today my challenge to us all is to be Faithful to the Lord in our Tithes and in our Offerings and to partner with our Church financially in our Heart For The House Campaign!

- h. I am asking each of us individually and collectively today to make this Church a priority in every area of your life including in your finances. As an organization, we cannot function to meet the needs of our faith community and our local community if you are not faithful in your financial support.
- i. Imagine the season of acceleration that we could all experience as a faith community if everyone of us, as a whole, fully support the church in every way; in our time, talent and treasure.
- j. Today I am not asking for your help, help is temporary. Rather I am asking for your partnership because our partnership as the Ecclesia, as the Body of Christ, is eternal.
- k. Friends, Family, Church! I am asking for you all individually to step up and partner with me in the Things of God and let's see what happens when we collectively go all in in all areas of our lives!

Ushers place buckets on the platform

Explain giving options / challenge online audience to partner

H4TH Strategy / Card details

Pray / Receive