

MAKING THE MOST OF OUR TREASURE

September 23, 2023

MAKING THE MOST OF OUR TREASURE

- **How To Make The Most Of Our Treasure**
- **READ: Matthew 25:14-30**

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I. The Responsibility That Is Entrusted

- **God Owns And Entrusts Us With Time – Talent -- Treasure**
- **God Is The Owner Of Everything**

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- **(Exo 19:5 NIV)** The whole earth is mine,
- **(Psa 24:1 NIV)** The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;
(2) for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters

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- **(Ezek 18:4 NIV)** For every living soul belongs to me.
- **(Rom 14:8 NIV)** If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

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- *God has given us all that we have possession of*
(1 Cor. 4:7 NIV) ...what do you have that you did not receive?"

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- **Different People Are Given Different Amounts Of Talents**
- **(Matthew 25:15 NIV)** To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey

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- ***One Received Five Talents***
- ***One Received Two Talents***
- ***One Received One Talent***
- ***At The Discretion Of The Owner***

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- **To Whom Much Is Given -- Much Is Required**
- **(Luke 12:48b NIV)** ... From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.

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- **God Expects An Increase**
- **The Best Increase Comes From Kingdom Investments**
- **What You Keep, You Lose - What You Give, You Keep!**

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- *Three Levels Of Kingdom Investing*
 - The Paying Of Tithes
 - The Giving Of Offerings
 - The Sowing Of Alms

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Kingdom Investing Starts With The Tithe

- *Abraham Paid Tithes To Melchizedek – Gen 14:17-20*
- *There Is A Divine Aspect & Connection To The Tithe*
- *Tithing Is A Way To Free Ourselves From Greed*
- *Tithing Is A Way To Invest In Eternity*

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- **Tithe = 10% - This Is What You Owe God**
- **(Lev 27:30 NIV) "A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD.**

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The Blessing Of Tithing

- **(Malachi 3:10 NIV)** Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.

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- **(Malachi 3:11-12 NIV)** (11) I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit," says the LORD Almighty. (12) "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the LORD Almighty.

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Blessings When You Tithe:

- You Will Have Food In Your House
- The Flood Gates Of Heaven Will Be Opened
- God Will Rebuke The Devourer
- God Will Take Care Of You

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The Curse Of Failing To Tithe

- **(Malachi 3:8 NIV)** "Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings. (9) You are under a curse--the whole nation of you--because you are robbing me.
- ***The Tithe Is The Lords***

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- **The Tithe Is Not Optional**

It Is Not Ours

It Belongs To God !

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Offerings Are Kingdom Investments

- The Offering Is Given Above The 10%
- Not Out Of Compulsion -- But Out Of The Leading Of The Holy Spirit

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Alms Giving Is Kingdom Investing

- *Giving Alms Is Giving To The Poor*
- (Prov 19:17 NIV) He who is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward him for what he has done.
- *Alms Giving Is A Loan Which God's Word Says He Will Repay*

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2. The Return That Is Expected

- The Owner Will Return

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- *In the Same Way that the Owner Would Return to Square things with His Stewards – Jesus will One Day Return for Us*
- *The Signs Of Christ's Soon Return Are Many*

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- *We Need To Be Prepared For His Return & Our Departure Now*
- **We Need To Be Making The Most Of**
 - **Our Time ; Talents ; Treasure**
 - **Because The Lord Is Coming Back**

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- *The Owner Will Return To Settle The Accounts*
- *There Will Be An Evaluation Given*
- *We Will Be Judged For Our Stewardship Effectiveness – As To How We Handled The Money That God Has Entrusted To Us.*

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Evaluation Determinations are Based On :

- *What Have We Done With What We Have?*
- *What Priorities Are Seen In Our Personal Finances?*
- *Where Is Our Treasure And Where Is Our Heart?*

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3. The Reward That Is Extended

- *If We Will Be Faithful With Our Finances Putting God First In Our Giving : His Reward Will Be Extended To Us*

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- **(1 Tim 6:18-19 NIV)** Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. (19) In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.