

THE BLESSED LIFE | Week 1 November 8, 2020

What Test?

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?’ 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.

1. Tithing is a test.

- a. The word *tithe* in Hebrew means the tenth part, or 10%.
- b. Throughout Scripture, the number 10 is associated with testing.
- c. Tithing is a two-way test—God wants us to test Him in this too.

2. Tithing is biblical.

- a. Melchizedek & Abram: *Genesis 14:18–20*
- b. Jacob: *Genesis 28:22*
- c. The Law: *Leviticus 27:30; Deuteronomy 26:1–2, 13–15*
- d. Jesus: *Matthew 23:23; Hebrews 7:8*

3. Tithing is a blessing.

- a. 2 Chronicles 31:4–10 (NKJV)
- b. You will never be able to afford to tithe until you begin to tithe.
- c. Tithing might be more personal to Jesus than you thought.

DISCUSS & APPLY

These questions can be used for personal study and/or in a Small Group format. We'd love to hear how you are putting them to use, so let us know at smallgroups@mannachurch.org.

1. Do you believe tithing is for believers today? Why or why not?
2. Read Deuteronomy 26:1–2 and Deuteronomy 26:13–15. According to these verses, what is the tithe and who or what should we give it to?
3. Read 2 Chronicles 31:9–10. Pastor Robert shared that tithing is a blessing for the believer. Do you agree or disagree? Explain. If you agree, how is the tithe a blessing for the believer? Have you experienced this firsthand? Share.
4. Many believers struggle when it comes to tithing. Why do you think this is? What are some of the barriers or misunderstandings that hinder believers from tithing? If you are comfortable, share your personal experience with tithing.
5. What would a tithe of your time awake be for one day? Do you currently spend a tithe of your time with the Lord, helping others, or investing in God's kingdom? If not, what are some practical ways you could give a tithe of your time awake to the Lord each day? Do you think God also blesses your time the same way He does when you tithe money?