

FEARLESSLY
Generous

Fearlessly Generous

Part 5: Freeing the Heart to Trust God
Financially



Deuteronomy 8:11-20

¹¹“Take care lest you forget the Lord your God by not keeping his commandments and his rules and his statutes, which I command you today, ¹²lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them, ¹³and when your herds and flocks multiply and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied

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Deuteronomy 8:11-20

¹⁴Then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, ¹⁵who led you through the great and terrifying wilderness, with its fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water, who brought you water out of the flinty rock

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Deuteronomy 8:11-20

¹⁶who fed you in the wilderness with manna that your fathers did not know, that he might humble you and test you, to do you good in the end.

¹⁷**Beware lest you say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth'**

¹⁸**You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.**

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Deuteronomy 8:11-20

¹⁹And if you forget the Lord your God and go after other gods and serve them and worship them, I solemnly warn you today that you shall surely perish.

²⁰Like the nations that the Lord makes to perish before you, so shall you perish, because you would not obey the voice of the Lord your God.

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Declaration of Trust

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Genesis 14:17-24

¹⁷After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). ¹⁸And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.) ¹⁹And he blessed him and said, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth;

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Genesis 14:17-24

²⁰and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!" And Abram gave him a tenth of everything. ²¹And the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself." ²²But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have lifted my hand to the Lord, God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth

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Genesis 14:17-24

²³That I would not take a thread or a sandal strap or anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have **made Abram rich.**' ²⁴I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me. Let Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre take their share."

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Hebrews 7:1-10

¹For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, ²**and to him Abraham apportioned a tenth part of everything.** He is first, by translation of his name, king of righteousness, and then he is also king of Salem, that is, king of peace.

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Hebrews 7:1-10

³He is without father or mother or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God he continues a priest forever. ⁴**See how great this man was to whom Abraham the patriarch gave a tenth of the spoils!**

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Hebrews 7:1-10

⁵And those descendants of Levi who receive the priestly office have a commandment in the law to take tithes from the people, that is, from their brothers, though these also are descended from Abraham. ⁶But this man who does not have his descent from them received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises

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Hebrews 7:1-10

⁷It is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. ⁸**In the one case tithes are received by mortal men, but in the other case, by one of whom it is testified that he lives.** ⁹One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, ¹⁰for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him.

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Tithes are not simply an obligation of the law, they continue to be a declaration of trust and worship from the heart of God's people!

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A Rhythm of Trust

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Malachi 3:6-12

6 "For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. 7 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?' 8 **Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions**

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Malachi 3:6-12

9 You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. 10 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.**

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Malachi 3:6-12

¹¹I 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.

¹²Then all nations will call **you blessed**, for you will be a **land of delight**, says the Lord of hosts.

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“The tithe simply is not a sufficiently radical concept to embody the carefree unconcern for possessions that marks life in the Kingdom of God. It is quite possible to tithe and at the same time oppress the poor and needy. The tithe is not necessarily evil' it simply cannot provide a sufficient base for Jesus' call to carefree unconcern over provision. Perhaps the tithe can be a beginning way to acknowledge God as the owner of all things, but it is only a beginning and not an ending.”

Richard J. Foster, “Freedom of Simplicity: Finding Harmony in a Complex World”

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Does God still see the tithes and offerings
as holy? What belongs to God?

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Can a Christian be “not blessed”?

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