

The Blessed Life Session VIII

“Putting your Tithes First”

7 Reasons I believe in tithing

- I. God’s Plan is to bless the Socks off of me if I put him first.
 - A. Ps 35:27 Let them shout for joy and be glad, Who favor my righteous cause; And let them say continually, "Let the Lord be magnified, Who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant."
 - B. Pr 10:22 The blessing of the Lord makes one rich, And He adds no sorrow with it.
 - C. Pr 3:7-10 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and depart from evil. ⁸ It will be health to your flesh, * And strength* to your bones. ⁹ Honor the LORD with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase; ¹⁰ So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.
- II. In order to provide for my wife and to model faithfulness, tithing gives her security.
 - A. I expect my wife to practice submission in the marriage
 - B. I must demonstrate my faith and submission to my headship, God.
- III. It teaches my family that it was God who freed us from slavery and tithing honors him for that.
 - A. Dt. 6:20-25 “When your son asks you in time to come, saying, 'What is the meaning of the testimonies, the statutes, and the judgments which the Lord our God has commanded you?' ²¹ then you shall say to your son: 'We were slaves of Pharaoh in

Egypt, and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand; 22 and the Lord showed signs and wonders before our eyes, great and severe, against Egypt, Pharaoh, and all his household. 23 Then He brought us out from there that He might bring us in, to give us the land of which He swore to our fathers. 24 And the Lord commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as it is this day.

B. A picture is worth a thousand words

IV. It enables me to enjoy the benefit of the work of my hands.

- A. Hag 1:3-11 Then the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet, saying, 4 "Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this temple* to lie in ruins?" 5 Now therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts: "Consider your ways! 6 "You have sown much, and bring in little; You eat, but do not have enough; You drink, but you are not filled with drink; You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; And he who earns wages, Earns wages to put into a bag with holes." 7 Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Consider your ways! 8 Go up to the mountains and bring wood and build the temple, that I may take pleasure in it and be glorified," says the Lord. 9 "You looked for much, but indeed it came to little; and when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why?" says the Lord of hosts. "Because of My house that is in ruins, while every one of you runs to his own house. 10 Therefore the heavens above you withhold the dew, and the earth withholds its fruit. 11 For I called for a drought on the land and the mountains, on the grain and the new wine and the oil, on whatever the ground brings forth, on men and livestock, and on all the labor of your hands."

V. It is the first priority of my financial plan and it teaches me wise financial budgeting principles. See Pr. 3 once again

VI. It reflects my connection to God's house and my personal blessing to see it blessed. This focuses my life plan to put God first

- A. Mal 3:10 "Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, ..."

It is a practice that comes with a promise of increase

- A. Mal 3:10-12 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.

