

MALACHI: Live Fully Devoted

Lesson Seven • Malachi 3:6-12

Return to Me, Don't Rob Me!

The God Who Never Changes

God is always FAITHFUL even when we are unfaithful.

"For I am the Lord, I do not change; therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob. 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?'" Malachi 3:6-7

Return to Me, Don't Rob Me!

1. Hear God's CHARGE: "You've Robbed Me!"

"Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, even this whole nation." Malachi 3:8-9

How Do We Rob God?

We rob God with UNFAITHFUL giving.

Why Do We Rob God?

We rob God when we wrongly believe we're the OWNER.

2. Heed God's COMMAND: "Return to Me!"

"Return to Me, and I will return to you," says the LORD of hosts. "But you said, 'In what way shall we return?'" Malachi 3:7

Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house." Malachi 3:10

How to Return to God:

- Returning to God involves REPENTING of sin.
- Returning to God involves GIVING to God.

3. Honor God's CHALLENGE: "Try Me!"

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. 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; "And all the nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land, says the LORD of hosts. Malachi 3:10-12

God's Challenge

If you will obey God with FAITHFUL giving,
God will bless you with FRUITFUL living.

*Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,
and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 2Corinthians 9:6 NIV*

Guidelines for Faithful Giving

Give CHEERFULLY from your heart and PROPORTIONATELY to your income.

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2Corinthians 9:7 NIV

Now about the collection for the Lord's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income... 1Corinthians 16:1-2 NIV

How to Get Started in Living Fully Devoted in Your Giving

- AUDIT your giving: evaluate the faithfulness of your giving in 2015.
- AUTOMATE your giving: decide in advance to faithfully give in 2016.