

52

LESSONS ON

THE
TITHE



BISHOP LARRY J. BAYLOR

52 Lessons On The Tithe by Bishop Larry J. Baylor

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Foreword

This book is an excellent learning experience for every reader as it gives a fresh new insight on tithing. I recommend pastors, leaders, teachers and especially the laymen to invest in a personal copy to study and implement these spiritual and financial lessons. Each of the lessons deal with the subject of "Tithing" in a remarkably unique way to be used 52 Sundays of the year. "52 Lessons on the Tithe" can be taught and used right before receiving the tithes and offerings on Sunday morning. After using this book in my own ministry, I have seen an increase in my church's giving.

The Barna Research Group, a private, non-partisan, for-profit organization, reported that in the last two and half years that there has been a decline in Tithing in the Christian church^[1]. The economic solvency of the nation has been under attack and going through a recession. The body of Christ has been affected by the financial difficulties and repercussions of our economy. Pastors desiring financial and spiritual growth for their congregation will be blessed beyond measure.

Bishop Larry J. Baylor has taken the time to aid pastors by systematically outlining these tithing lessons. It is also an impressive tool to prevent a decline in tithing. This book was birthed out of a need to address a drop in tithing and offerings at Bishop Baylor's church. He personally testifies of how God performs miracles for the members in his congregation because of these lessons on tithing. These lessons will cause growth and increases the minute one begins to teach on tithing. It is scripturally based and practical. Moreover, it is easy to read and comprehend.

One will learn: What is the tithe? What was the tithe used for in the Old Testament? How the tithe is used today in the New Testament church. God commanded this principle to support ministries and to advance the Kingdom of God. He never designed the church to be supported by chicken dinners, bake sales, and fish fries. God's church is to be supported by tithes and offerings (Malachi 3: 6-12). Expect spiritual growth and the blessings of God on your life and finances by applying these lessons or face the consequences of a curse for not tithing.

I highly recommend this anointed book. Bishop Baylor has done the research and work for you. He has beautifully outlined each lesson with scriptures and illustrations that will make each lesson easy to teach on a Sunday morning or bible class. In addition, you can use the outlined lesson as a handout or it can be taught using PowerPoint presentations. The "52 Lessons on the Tithe" should be a part of every pastor's or leader's library. It will pay for itself!

When taught under the anointing of the Holy Ghost, you will see a tremendous increase the first

Sunday using one of these lessons. These lessons were designed with you in mind. Now, enjoy "52 Lessons on the Tithe" and enjoy the fruit of the harvest. I thank God for Bishop Baylor and this awesome work. I anxiously await his next work on "Giving".

Bishop Terence E. Coleman
Pastor, Greater Pentecostal Church of God
St. Louis, MO

Bishop Larry J. Baylor

Bishop Larry J. Baylor was born and reared in St. Louis, Missouri to Mother Mattie, and Pastor Willie G. Baylor. During his early childhood years, it was prophesied that one day he would preach the gospel. One thing that stands out about Bishop Baylor is the fact that while he was just a child, GOD granted him an angelic visitation that remains fresh in his mind even until this day. He has always known that there was something different about his life.

Bishop Baylor was reared in the public school system of St. Louis, Missouri where he received his primary, secondary, and high school education. He attended Columbia College in Columbia, Missouri where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration in 1980. His major was in marketing, with his minor in management.

Bishop Baylor moved to Houston, Texas in 1980, while pursuing a career in the business world. Within three months, he had given his life to Jesus and was baptized in the Holy Ghost. In 1981, Bishop Baylor moved back to St. Louis to assist his father, the late Pastor Willie G. Baylor, in ministry. Little did he know that ten years later he would become the senior pastor of the church his father started in the basement of their home. He has been a member of the body of Christ since 1980.

Bishop Larry J. Baylor has served as the senior pastor of Faith Miracle Temple since 1990. Since assuming the pastorate of Faith Miracle Temple, the church has experienced outstanding growth spiritually, numerically, and financially. Bishop Baylor led the Faith Miracle Temple congregation to build a new church facility on 9.5 acres of land in the North County area of St. Louis. The church also purchased an additional 7.5 acres of land to provide for the current need of additional parking and future expansion.

Bishop Baylor is a natural intercessor, greatly used by GOD in the ministry of deliverance. His anointed ministry is being used by the LORD JESUS to encourage believers to fulfill their purpose in building the Kingdom of GOD. His insights into the realms of prayer, spiritual warfare, healing, deliverance, worship, leadership, and the GLORY has caused him to be a sought after speaker in these most crucial areas.

Bishop Baylor's motivational preaching and teaching is accompanied with signs and wonders following. The ministry of Bishop Baylor emphasizes the responsibility of all believers to seek after the

heart of GOD. His challenge to the body of Christ is to become the exception and not the norm. His ministry has been used by the Lord to establish churches in Nairobi, Kenya, and Durban, South Africa. He also oversees churches in the Philippines. Bishop Baylor founded Higher Ground International Ministries (HGIM) in 2005. This ministry is a covering for assemblies and ministers worldwide. Through HGIM, Bishop Baylor led an apostolic team to St. Petersburg, Russia to start a ministry in December, 2008.

Bishop Baylor is the founder of Higher Ground Media Ministries, which included, "Higher Ground," a local St. Louis weekly radio broadcast heard on KATZ 1600 AM. In addition to radio, Higher Ground is a live international video stream via the Internet on Sundays at 11:30 a.m., CST (www.faithmiracletemple.org). Higher Ground Media Ministries also included a weekly television broadcast, "Higher Ground" which aired locally on MY46 TV, WRBU, Sundays at 7:30 a.m., CST. Higher Ground has also been aired on the Impact Network, a national religious television network at 9:30 P.M. CST; Mondays on Dish Network, Channel 268 (time4impact.com); and Comcast Cable Network, Channel 400. Bishop Baylor is the founder of Higher Ground Economic Development Corporation, which is being used by the Holy Spirit to change communities through social services. He is the founder of Higher Dimensions Community Development, LLC, a for profit corporation, which seeks to provide economic development for communities in need. In 2012, Bishop Baylor founded Higher Ground Publications, a publishing company of Christian books and manuals. He and his wife Tanika are happily married and with their son Cameron, serve the Lord with a burning compassion for the people of GOD.

Endorsements

Bishop John Francis

Founder & Senior Pastor of Ruach City Church (UK)

Over the years there has been much debate on the subject of 'tithing' and as a result perspectives differ. Tithing has not always been understood and many have tried to bring clarity on the subject of tithing. Bishop Baylor, in his book '52 Lessons On The Tithe', gives an excellent thesis on tithing, giving clarity and provides a step by step teaching plan that helps the church to focus on how to give. What is a tithe? A tithe is one tenth of annual produce or earnings, formerly taken as a tax for the support of the Church and clergy. The practice of tithing can be depicted in the first book of the Bible. Many believe that the practice of tithing is an Old Testament practice. However, in Bishop Baylor's book, he teaches and highlights the continuity of tithing from Old Testament scripture through to the New Testament. In his book you will get a more in-depth study on the biblical understanding of tithes, what tithes were used for and how they are to be utilized in today's church. Bishop Baylor's book is an impeccable piece of work that brings clarity and a fresh new outlook on the subject of tithing. The book is penned in a systematic way that is simple and easy for anyone to use. I recommend this book to all churches that may have challenges in the area of tithing. This book will help your church to implement the spiritual and financial principles undergirded by scripture and you can be sure to see a radical change not only in the mind of your congregation but an increase in your church finances.

Dr. Julius Sims

Pastor/Teacher, Word of Life Christian Church - St. Louis, Missouri

There are booklets, publications, and manuals that are written, that place our understanding of Biblical truths on new platforms. However, the Holy Spirit through Bishop Larry Baylor in this treaty concerning tithing and finance has jettisoned us into a dimension of eschatological wisdom. This course study is a must for any Apostle, Prophet, Pastor, or serious student of truth concerning tithing and money. It is profoundly written with an anointing that removes the scales of religious apprehension. Upon the completion of the studies of this manual, boldness will be left in the heart of the student of this scholarly and masterfully crafted work. Should the Lord tarry, fifty years from now, preachers unborn to time will gleam eternal wisdom from the pages of this profoundly written manual.

Bishop Brandon Porter

Sr. Pastor, Greater Community Temple - Memphis TN

I must say this unique book is a Godsend to all leaders in the Kingdom! Though we may from time to time, teach or preach on the subject of tithing, we are limited in our research and consistency. See faith comes by hearing the truth clearly and consistently explained. This book is a tool that I highly recommend for every pastor and church leader, who assist in communicating the vision of the church. Yes my friend we all have no excuses now, because what we have been needing is right at our fingertips for the whole year....52 Weeks what a blessing! Thank You Bishop Larry Baylor for obeying God writing and releasing this edification to the Body of Christ!

Endorsements

Bishop Clifton Jones

*Diocesan Bishop, 10th Episcopal District Pentecostal
Assemblies Of The World - Philadelphia, MS*

I call for the attention of all of my supporters and those who count my character as being up right. I go on record as a strong supporter of Bishop Larry J. Baylor's book - 52 Lessons On The Tithes. A person like Bishop Baylor is a tremendous blessing to the body of Christ. His dedication and consecrated life I have observed for many years. I can say with confidence that his approach to the scriptures is truly a gift from God. It is my strong feeling that all who engage in the study of his material in this book are sure to come out richly rewarded. It stands to reason that since the presentation of this material to his local congregation, he has witnessed a major increase in financial support. I am sure all who follow the prescribed patterns presented by his material will reap like results. It is a fact that not all of God's ministers are students of the Bible and that is why God sends along men like Bishop Baylor to make up for what may be lacking. There is no need to create another pattern when the one we have is working. In his book, 52 Lessons On The Tithes, he outlines the how, and the why and what of the divine plan for the people of God. Pastors, teachers, saints and searchers, you should take advantage of this valuable information and let the blessings of the Lord overtake you in your pursuit for excellence.

Bishop Leo Lewis

*Presiding Bishop,
Prophetic Miracle Ministries Worldwide - Montgomery, AL*

There are booklets, publications, and manuals that are written, that place our understanding of Biblical truths on new platforms. However, the Holy Spirit through Bishop Larry Baylor in this treaty concerning tithing and finance has jettisoned us into a dimension of eschatological wisdom. This course study is a must for any Apostle, Prophet, Pastor, or serious student of truth concerning tithing and money. It is profoundly written with an anointing that removes the scales of religious apprehension. Upon the completion of the studies of this manual, boldness will be left in the heart of the student of this scholarly and masterfully crafted work. Should the Lord tarry, fifty years from now, preachers unborn to time will gleam eternal wisdom from the pages of this profoundly written manual.

Dr. Jerry Huthcins

*International Bishop of Policy and Procedure,
Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship - Norcross, GA*

During times of economic downturns, one of the first things that people cut back on is their charitable contributions, including their tithes. According to an article on www.relevantmagazine.com, "Only 5 percent of the U.S. tithes, with 80 percent of Americans only giving 2 percent of their income. Christians are only giving at 2.5 percent per capita, while during the Great Depression they gave at a 3.3 percent rate." Bishop Larry J. Baylor's 52 Lessons On The Tithe is a must for any Pastor during these challenging times. God has not changed His mind about the tithe even though the majority has taken it from 10% to 2% of their income. Bishop Baylor emphasizes that anything short of 10% is not a tithe as the two terms are synonymous. This is a valuable tool and I encourage every Pastor to implement these lessons in his or her local church.

Introduction

The concept of tithes, as it pertains to the Body of Christ, has been a subject of enormous controversy over the years. The pros and cons of this profoundly debated issue have caused many ministers to throw up their hands and let things happen as they may. The Bible gives ministers strong admonition as it pertains to the truth of the Word of God, study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15).

It is the responsibility of every person, chosen to the five-fold ministry, to teach and preach the whole counsel of GOD (Acts 20:27).

In January, 2011, the LORD challenged me to teach a series of lessons on the tithe prior to Sunday morning giving. Before this challenge, I had not done much teaching on the tithe except for a few lessons from time to time. Also, as the United States was in the midst of an economic downturn, I undertook this task with considerable concern. To my amazement, the challenge from the Lord to teach every Sunday morning on the tithe has brought to our church tremendous results. To GOD be the GLORY!

Our church has been giving testimony after testimony of how the Lord has been true to His Word as found in **Malachi 3:10**, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." The blessing the Lord poured out in the lives of His people as they have obeyed the Word through tithing literally blew my mind. Not only that, our offerings increased without much teaching on offerings.

I challenge you to take the lessons and follow the plan the Lord gave me as outlined in this booklet. I know, without a shadow of a doubt you will see the same results I have seen since following the mandate from the Lord. Our tithing increased 64 percent and is increasing as the saints understand what the LORD said about His tithe.

Enclosed in the pages of this booklet is a remarkably clear plan to follow along with 52 lessons for you to teach. Feel free to add, take away, or alter the lessons to fit your teaching style. May the blessings of the Lord be on you and your ministry!

The Master's Servant in GLORY,
Bishop Larry J. Baylor
Senior Pastor, Faith Miracle Temple Church

Greetings Five-Fold Ministry Leaders,

I hope this correspondence finds you, your family, and your ministry prospering. Well here it is! The system of tithing that has increased the tithe at Faith Miracle Temple 64 percent. All you need to do is follow the simple instructions below and go for it! Your growth financially is just a few days away. Here is how the system works.

- I. The first step is to preach a message on tithes one Sunday before the entire congregation (Message provided – “The Blessing of the Tithe”). The reason this is so important is that if you devote a Sunday morning message to the subject of the tithe, your congregation will know that you are serious about it.
- II. The second step is to meet with your leaders on the same day you preach on the tithe immediately following service. Express to them that your desire is to have everyone tithe and you want to begin with leadership. I told my leaders that any leader who does not tithe would no longer participate at our church as a leader. Leaders at our church are preachers, deacons, ministry (auxiliary) leaders, choir and band members, and their spouses.
- III. The third step is to give all leaders a **leadership covenant form** at the meeting, after you preach on the tithe, have them complete it and submit it to you within one week. The leaders need to know that once you receive the forms back, the amount listed as their monthly tithe will be compared to what they actually tithe each month.
- IV. If there are any discrepancies with the form and what the leader gives, the leader should be called into a meeting with you, as pastor, to find out what the problem is.
- V. The week after you preach on the tithe, you should begin teaching the tithing lessons each week, consecutively, for 52 weeks prior to receiving your Sunday morning tithes and offerings. Each lesson is seven to ten minutes long.
- VI. Follow steps two and three for the congregation. Instead of giving the congregation a **leadership covenant form**, give them a **membership covenant form**.
- VII. Every month thereafter, check the tithing record of everyone and compare it to the information on the **leadership** and **membership covenant forms**.

Sounds simple doesn't it? Well it is that simple. Use all the attached forms and change them to fit your ministry. As the tithes in your church increases, email me at pastorbaylor@faithmiracletemple.org and give a “praise report”. Until next time...See you at the top!

The Master's Servant in GLORY,
Bishop Larry J. Baylor

The Blessing of The Tithe (*Sunday Message*)

SCRIPTURAL TEXT: Malachi 3:10 (KJV) Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

INTRODUCTION: One of the most misunderstood principles in the bible is the principle of tithing. Much of the misunderstanding in this most crucial area is the result of many things. Here are just a few:

- (1) The lack of study on the subject of tithing.
- (2) The abuse in the church in the area of tithing.
- (3) The fear of the clergy to teach exactly what the bible says about tithing.
- (4) The false doctrines from men and the devil as it relates to the subject of tithing.

What I want to do today is deliver a message on the subject of tithing. In this lesson I am going to show you that tithing has to do with a lot more than money. After the message today, it is my desire for everyone in the congregation to enjoy the tremendous blessing the LORD has afforded us as covenant believers through the tithe.

- I. What is the tithe? The word tithe comes from the Hebrew word *mah-as-ar'* which means a tenth part or payment of a tenth part. In other words, in **Malachi 3:10**, the tenth part of our increase, or earnings, are deposited in the storehouse of God. Your increase is what you receive from your labor, which in today's economy is your gross, not your net income. The tithe in today's economy is the giving of one tenth of all of the increase that comes into the life of a believer and includes:
 - a. Income from all employment prior to deductions.
 - b. Income from investments.
 - c. Other forms of increase like inheritances, monetary gifts, settlements, etc.
- II. The tithe is the tenth part of your income that you should return to GOD by bringing it to the storehouse (**Malachi 3:10**), where you are being spiritually fed. Anything less than 10 percent of your gross earnings is an offering, and anything more than 10 percent of your gross earnings is an offering. You cannot "pay on your tithes." Either you tithe or you do not, based on 10 percent of your gross earnings or your increase.
- III. **Titling Is A Priority Principle** – The principle of the tithe is one of priority. Priority has to deal with order. God is a God of order. Tithing is a tangible declaration that God is first in

your life. It speaks to the fact that you acknowledge God as the true source of your increase and that He is first priority when it comes to distributing what He has allowed to come into your life through the process of stewardship.

- IV. **Tithing Is A Pre-Law And Post-Law Principle** – There are some who believe since tithing started under the law of Moses, we should not tithe today because we are under grace. There are also some who believe tithing doesn't appear in the bible as a New Testament doctrine. Nothing could be further from the truth.
- a. **Genesis 14:13-20** - Abram gives tithes to Melchizedek (422 years before the law).
 - b. **Genesis 28:20-22** - Jacob vows to tithe after a dream (261 years before the law).
 - c. **Hebrews 7:8 (NKJV)** - Here (**on earth**) mortal men that die receive tithes, but there (**in heaven**) he receives them of whom it is witnessed that he lives.
 - d. **Romans 2:22** - Sacrilege = *hee-er-os-ool-eh'-o* = to be a temple robber. When the bible talks about robbing the temple it is talking about robbing the temple of tithes (**Malachi 3:8**). Paul, the Apostle, is talking to the body of Christ in the New Testament church. This clearly shows that tithing is something that was a part of the New Testament church after the law of Moses.
- V. **Tithing Is A Stewardship Principle – 1 Corinthians 4:2** - Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.
- a. Steward = *oy-kon-om'-os* = a distributor, a manager, an overseer, a fiscal agent.
 - b. Steward (Webster) = one who manages another's property, finances, or other affairs.
 - c. **Leviticus 27:30** - And all the tithe of the land, *whether* of the seed of the land, *or* of the fruit of the tree, *is* the LORD'S: *it is* holy unto the LORD.
 - d. Anything that is holy belongs exclusively to God and only He can say how it can be used. Since the tithe is holy, it belongs to Him. He has allowed it to come into your hands to manage and distribute it.
- VI. **Tithing Is A Protection Principle – Malachi 3:10-11** - Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.
- a. devourer = seed eater.

b. Tithing does these four things:

- (1) It prevents negative spiritual forces from devouring the seed that God gives to sowers (**2 Corinthians 9:10**).
- (2) It stops negative spiritual forces from causing what you should receive as an increase (fruit) from being destroyed.
- (3) It aligns you with the proper seasons for increase (neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time, Malachi 3:11).
- (4) Tithing is an insurance (covenant) policy; it protects against loss.

VII. **Tithing Is A Possibilities Principle – Malachi 3:10 (b)**... if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

a. When the bible speaks of blessings it is not referring to cars, homes, clothes, or for the most part, money. What the scripture is telling you is the windows of heaven will release to you ideas, strategies, and inventions that you could have never thought up on your own. These blessings are numerous and of great value. They are capable of producing great wealth.

b. **Deuteronomy 8:18** - But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

[1] power = *ko'-akh* = capacity, means, ability, might, chameleon (chameleons adapt to fit and prosper in any environment). As a tithe paying believer, you can prosper in any environment you find yourself in.

[2] Tithers can expect to have unlimited rich ideas, inventions, and strategies that will bring them untold prosperity.

VIII. In conclusion, the principle of tithing is one of the greatest truths in the bible. It preceded the law of Moses. It was included in the law of Moses. It is still a biblical principle for New Testament believers to utilize in order to be blessed today. It is my desire for everyone in this congregation to settle the issue of tithing in your mind today and allow the Blessing of Abraham to release untold prosperity in your life from this time forward.

Leadership Covenant Agreement

Malachi 3:10 - Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Covenant Defined: 1. A signed written agreement between two or more parties (nations) to perform action. 2. (Bible), an agreement between God and his people in which God makes certain promises and requires certain behavior from them in return.

I fully support the vision of _____ church and pastor _____.
I covenant with GOD and pastor _____ to do the following things as a
leader of _____ church from January _____ through January _____.

- I will faithfully sow my offerings and other gifts into _____ as the LORD leads me.
- I will faithfully bring all my tithes into the storehouse that feeds me spiritually, from the increase the LORD has prospered my household to have in the amount of:

Husband's Tithe \$ _____ Monthly Wife's Tithe \$ _____ Monthly

Single's Tithe \$ _____ Monthly

- I do not agree to the terms of this covenant and will not sow my offerings and/or bring my tithes into the storehouse that feeds me spiritually for these reasons:

Name _____ Signature _____

Position/Ministry _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Date _____

Email _____

Membership Covenant Agreement

Malachi 3:10 - Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Covenant Defined: 1. A signed written agreement between two or more parties (nations) to perform action. 2. (Bible), an agreement between God and his people in which God makes certain promises and requires certain behavior from them in return.

I fully support the vision of _____ church and pastor _____.
I covenant with GOD and pastor _____ to do the following things as a
member of _____ church from January ____ through January _____.

- I will faithfully sow my offerings and other gifts into _____ as the LORD leads me.
- I will faithfully bring all my tithes into the storehouse that feeds me spiritually, from the increase the LORD has prospered my household to have in the amount of:

Husband's Tithe \$ _____ Monthly Wife's Tithe \$ _____ Monthly

Single's Tithe \$ _____ Monthly

- I do not agree to the terms of this covenant and will not sow my offerings and/or bring my tithes into the storehouse that feeds me spiritually for these reasons:

Name _____ Signature _____

Position/Ministry _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Date _____

Email _____

Table of Contents

LESSON 1	What Is The Tithe?	19
LESSON 2	We Tithe To Honor The Lord	21
LESSON 3	We Tithe To Position Ourselves To Receive The Promises Of God	23
LESSON 4	You Tithe To Have God's Blessings Poured Out In Your Life	25
LESSON 5	You Tithe So God Will Rebuke The Devourer For You	27
LESSON 6	You Tithe To Stop The Effects Of The Devourer	29
LESSON 7	Your Tithe Causes Those Around You To Call You Blessed!	31
LESSON 8	You Tithe To Return To God And For God To Return To You	33
LESSON 9	The Curse Of The Curse	35
LESSON 10	The Curse Of Location	37
LESSON 11	The Curse Of Offspring	39
LESSON 12	The Curse Of Sickness And Disease	41
LESSON 13	The Curse Of The Brassy Heaven	43
LESSON 14	The Curse Of The Iron Earth	45
LESSON 15	The Curse Of Heaven's Powder And Dust	47
LESSON 16	The Curse Of The Enemy Attack	49
LESSON 17	The Curse Of Egypt (Part I)	51
LESSON 18	The Curse Of Egypt (Part II)	53
LESSON 19	The Curse Of Egypt (Part III)	55
LESSON 20	The Curse Of Domestic Life	57
LESSON 21	The Curse Of Parenthood	59
LESSON 22	The Curse Of Strangers	61

LESSON 23	The Curse Of Idolatry.....	63
LESSON 24	The Tither's Promise	65
LESSON 25	Prosperity That Pursues	67
LESSON 26	The Blessing Of Universal Prosperity.....	69
LESSON 27	The Blessing Of Fruitfulness.....	71
LESSON 28	The Blessing Of Present & Future Provision.....	73
LESSON 29	The Blessing Of Labor.....	75
LESSON 30	The Blessing Of Sure Victory	77
LESSON 31	The Commanded Blessing	79
LESSON 32	The Blessing Of The Blessed Hand	81
LESSON 33	The Blessing Of Being Special.....	83
LESSON 34	The Blessing Of Being Renowned	85
LESSON 35	The Blessing Of Plenty.....	87
LESSON 36	The Blessing Of An Open Heaven.....	89
LESSON 37	The Four-Fold Result Of An Open Heaven.....	91
LESSON 38	The Blessing Of Headship.....	93
LESSON 39	The Blessing Of Unlimited Success	95
LESSON 40	Tithing By Faith	97
LESSON 41	Tithing By Faith Supernaturally (Part I).....	99
LESSON 42	Tithing By Faith Supernaturally (Part II)	101
LESSON 43	Tithing On The Promise	103
LESSON 44	Tithing Frees You From The World's Economic System.....	105
LESSON 45	Tithing Helps You Minister To The Needs Of The Poor.....	107
LESSON 46	Eight Reasons Why People Don't Tithe.....	109

LESSON 47 Eight Reasons You Should Tithe..... 111

LESSON 48 Your Tithe Is Your Worship..... 113

LESSON 49 Your Tithe Is His Tithe 115

LESSON 50 Tithing Is An Act Of The Heart 117

LESSON 51 The Tithe Is Your Covenant Connector 119

LESSON 52 The Tithe Includes All Financial Increase..... 121

Lesson
01

What is the Tithe?

The way in which you handle your finances will mark your spiritual commitment to God! It has often been said that more could be learned about a person's commitment to Christ by looking at his checkbook rather than his prayer book. We are no farther along in our walk with God than the point to which we have learned to trust Him with our tithes.

*And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's: it is holy unto the Lord (**Leviticus 27:30**).*

The way in which you handle your finances will mark your spiritual commitment to God! It has often been said that more could be learned about a person's commitment to Christ by looking at his checkbook rather than his prayer book. We are no farther along in our walk with God than the point to which we have learned to trust Him with our tithes.

What is the tithe?

1. Tithe = *mah-as-ayr'* = tenth; the tenth part
2. In Jewish history, the tithe was a tenth of the produce of the earth consecrated and set apart for special purposes. The dedication of a tenth to God was recognized as a duty before the time of Moses and the law. The tithe was payment of one tenth of all the increase of the Jews.

At the end of three years thou shalt bring forth all the tithe of thine increase the same year, and shalt lay it up within thy gates (**Deuteronomy 14:28**):

The tithe in today's economy is the giving of one tenth of all of the increase that comes into the life of a believer. This includes:

1. Income from all employment prior to deductions
2. Income from investments
3. Other forms of increase like inheritances, monetary gifts, settlements, etc.

Leviticus 27:30 tells us the tithe is holy. The word holy means sacred, dedicated, or hallowed. The tithe is very special to God and should only be used for the purpose He designated for it. It is like the holy anointing oil in **Exodus 30:31-33**. Israel was to use the anointing oil only for God's purpose. You are to use the tithe only for the purpose of God. The reason both are to be used only for the purposes of God is because both are holy.

The tithe is not an offering, a seed, or an option.

The tithe is the tenth part of your income you should return to God by bringing it to the storehouse, **Malachi 3:10**, where you are being spiritually fed. Anything less than 10 percent of your gross earnings is an offering and anything more than 10 percent of your gross earnings is an offering. You cannot "pay on your tithes." Either you tithe, or you do not and it is based on 10 percent of your gross earnings.

Today, I encourage you to return to God the holy tithe which belongs to Him and be blessed.

Lesson

02

We Tithe to Honor The Lord

Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's. (Matthew 22:21 {b})

And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's: it is holy unto the Lord. (Leviticus 27:30).

Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase. (Proverbs 3:9)

In this lesson, you will discover why you should tithe; you tithe to honor the Lord.

Honor - Respect paid to superiors such as God (**John 5:23; Rev. 5:12**); to parents and kings, including submission and service (**Exodus 20:12; Matthew 15:4; 1 Peter 2:17**); the esteem due to virtue, wisdom, glory, reputation, complete and confirmed integrity, and uprightness (**Proverbs 15:33**).

One of the basic drives of humanity is for one to have in his possession what belongs to him. Children grasp their toys and cry, "Mine!" The reason this fact of nature is so prevalent is that everyone wants to have control of what belongs to him. What belongs to you should be used for what you intend.

Your house, apartment, clothes, or money are in your possession; it belongs to you. Therefore, you can do with it as you choose; that is the right of ownership. How would you feel if someone had your house, apartment, clothes, or money in their possession and was using it for something you did not agree with?

God owns the entire world and its substance (**Psalms 24:1**). The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; Behold, all souls are mine (**Ezekiel 18:4**). The silver is mine, and the gold is mine (**Haggai 2:8**). It is God who gives the power to obtain wealth (**Psalms 75:6-7; Ecclesiastes 5:19**).

Why should you begrudge God 10 percent when everything actually belongs to Him? If it were not for Him, there would be no land, no seed, no strength, no income, and no life. How generous He is to tell us, "The tithe is the Lord's (**Leviticus 27:30**)."

When you return to God His tithe, you bring Him honor because you are allowing Him to do with His money what brings Him pleasure. God is saying, "Honor Me by bringing Me My 10 percent to run My house, and you can take the other 90 percent to do with it as you feel led to run your home."

Today, let us join and honor the Lord by returning to Him His tithe.

Lesson

03

ok

We Tithe To Position Ourselves To Receive The Promises Of God The Lord

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the Lord of hosts. (Malachi 3:10-12)

One of the most important things in the world today is the concept of position or location. Any realtor will tell you when it comes to purchasing a home, the type of home, the cost of the home, and the size of the home; you must consider location, location, location. In other words, the position of the home determines just about everything about the home.

In the same vein, in terms of the Kingdom of God or the church, when you tithe, you **position yourself to receive the promises of God.**

In our lesson today, the Lord Jehovah gives six promises. He wants to release in your life based on one thing, "position". He says if you bring all the tithes into the storehouse (church), you position yourself to receive these promises. The Lord promises:

1. To open you the windows of heaven
2. To pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it
3. To rebuke the devourer for your sake
4. Neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field
5. All nations shall call you blessed
6. You shall be a delightsome land

Jehovah said He would open the windows of heaven, which is the first promise received from God when you position yourself by tithing. Heaven has doors (**Psalm 78:23**) and windows. The purpose of windows is different from the purpose of doors. The purpose of doors is to keep some things in and other things out; it is a symbol of protection and security. The purpose of windows is the same, but windows allow you to see out and others to see in.

Therefore, a window is a symbol of access! Access is granted by the one inside to the one who is outside. Access is also granted by the one who is outside to the one who is inside through sight. The windows of heaven being open tell you your tithe gives God access to you and everything that comes up in your life. While on the other hand, your tithe also gives you access to God for the many issues you face in life. Your tithe puts you in position to allow God to come to you and allows you to come to God.

Today, return your tithe to God and position yourself to allow this access you so desperately need in your life to become a reality.

Lesson

04

You Tithe To Have God's Blessings Poured Out In Your Life

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. (Malachi 3:10-12)

In this lesson, you will discover when you tithe; it allows God's blessings to be poured out in your life.

1. To understand what Malachi is teaching, you must understand the agricultural lifestyle of the people of God in our scripture text.
2. Many of the Israelites were farmers. Subsequently, they depended on the concept of seedtime and harvest in order to survive.
3. Therefore, the people of God planted their seeds in the ground, e.g., corn, wheat, or other crops then waited for the rain.

There are two types of rain they believed Jehovah God for; the former rain in the spring for planting and the latter rain in the fall for harvest. Without the rain that came from the windows of heaven, there would be very little or at times no harvest.

Another thing to consider is once the people of God had a good former rain and sowed their seeds in the field, they waited for the first harvest. As soon as they got the first harvest or first fruit, they calculated the tithe or one tenth and took it to the storehouse or church and gave it to the priest.

The farmer believed that Jehovah continued to rain upon his harvest and made it bountiful. In turn, the tither would return to the field to reap the remaining portion of his harvest. Then, it is essential for the farmer to use some of his harvest for food and some for seed for the next year's planting.

Here's the revelation! If the Israelite farmer brought his tithe to the storehouse and gave an offering from his harvest, he expected Jehovah to open the windows of heaven the next year and rain in the spring for planting and in the fall for harvest. Notice the rain or the blessing from the windows of heaven was not poured on the tithe or the offering, it was poured out on the field where the farmer had something planted.

The blessing or rain in **Malachi 3:10** is poured out on something you have planted in the earth. You need to have some kind of concept planted in the earth or in the community for God to prosper. You cannot expect to have God pour out a blessing on a field if there is nothing planted in it.

You must have a business venture, stock portfolio, recipe, an invention, or idea from the Lord. He will give you the strategy to make it prosperous. **Deuteronomy 8:18** (*power = ability, means, vigor*).

Today, when you tithe, expect God to give you the strategy, means, or ability to make that thing you have planted in the earth to prosper. If you do not have something planted in the earth, it is high time to do it now and take advantage of what your tithe will do for you!

Lesson
05

You Tithe So God Will Rebuke The Devourer For You

And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts. (Malachi 3:11)

And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts (**Malachi 3:11**).

In this lesson, you will discover how tithing releases God to rebuke the devourer for you.

From Lesson Four, you understand the agricultural occupation of some of God's covenant people, Israel. We know that Israel depended totally on Jehovah to prosper them by sending the former rain in the spring and the latter rain in the fall in order to cause their crops to grow. Another major act the farmers of Israel needed Jehovah to do was to keep the various pests from eating up their crops they worked so hard to grow. In the scripture, four major insect pests would devour the crops of Israel. These pests are found in **Joel 2:2**, And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you. The four pests include:

1. **Locust** - The invasions of locusts are the heaviest calamities that can befall a country. Their numbers exceed computation. Their flight obscures the sun and casts a thick shadow on the earth. No walls can stop them. If a door or a window was open, they entered destroying everything of wood in the house. Such an awful visitation swept over Egypt (**Exodus 10:1-19**), consuming before it every green thing, stripping the trees, until the land was bared of all signs of vegetation.
2. **Cankerworm** - the licking locust which licks up the grass of the field; probably the locust at a certain stage of its growth, just as it emerges from the caterpillar state (**Joel 1:4; 2:25**).

3. **Caterpillar** -The consumer; used in the Old Testament (**1 Kings 8:37; 2 Chronicles 6:28; Psalm 78:46**) as the translation of a word (hasil); the root of which means "to devour" or "consume." It may have been a species of locusts or the name of one of the transformations through which the locusts passes.
4. **Palmerworm** - The English word may denote either a caterpillar (*as rendered by the Septuagint*), which wanders like a palmer or pilgrim or which travels like pilgrims in bands (**Joel 1:4, 2:25**). This is the wingless locust or the migratory locust in its larva state.

The Bible calls these insects the devourer because they destroy your increase. Once these insects were in a field of wheat, corn, etc., there was no hope for a harvest. Jehovah promises the person who tithes that He will rebuke the devourers for their sake. He will stop the destructive nature of the negative spiritual forces from destroying what is rightfully yours. The Bible calls the devourer a thief (**St. John 10:10**). Rebuke means to criticize or reprove sharply; reprimand; check or repress; speak severely to (a person) because he has done wrong; caution or warn; inform or remind. This means when you tithe, every time the devil seeks to harm your increase, the LORD will check him; not for his sake but for yours. One Word from the Lord will stop anything from happening; So shall my word be that goeth forth out (**Isaiah 55:11**).

If you are having a difficult time getting ahead financially, check to see if the devourer is eating up your increase. Just maybe the curse of the devourer is in your life. The car breaks down, the washer or dryer stops prematurely, and unexpected sickness. Bills you cannot explain could be signs that the devourer is working in your life. The Lord says He wants to stop this from happening. All you have to do is tithe. You cannot rebuke the devourer, God has to do it.

Today, repent and allow your covenant keeping God to stop the negative effects of demonic forces from devouring your increase.

Lesson
06

You Tithe To Stop The Effects Of The Devourer

And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts. (Malachi 3:11)

And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts (Malachi 3:11).

In this lesson, you will discover how tithing **stops the negative effects the devourer** has on the finances of people who do not tithe. We understand there are four types of insects the people of God dealt with when it came to their crops being destroyed. They are the locust, cankerworm, caterpillar, and palmerworm. Even though these natural pests actually robbed God's people of their harvest, they are also symbols of what takes place in the spirit realm for believers who refuse to tithe today.

When a person refuses to tithe, he is under a curse. Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation (Malachi 3:8-9).

1. What is a curse? An evil that has been invoked upon one.
 - a. An evil that has been invoked upon one.
 - b. The cause of evil, misfortune, or trouble.
 - c. An appeal to a supernatural power for harm to come to a specific person, group, etc.
 - d. To call upon divine or supernatural power to send injury upon; to imprecate evil upon.

The curse of **Malachi 3:8-9** is supernatural. It produces natural enemies such as the locust, canker-worm, caterpillar, and palmerworm in the lives of the people in the Bible days. Today, the curse is still in effect; only the supernatural effect is spiritual. Instead of insects being released to destroy the crops of God's people, demonic spirits are released in order to cause tremendous economic hardships in the life of a non-tither. This curse takes many forms in the life of those who refuse to tithe. In the natural, Jehovah said the initial manifestation of the curse would be that the devourer would "destroy the fruits of their ground." What Israel had worked so hard for would be destroyed. The word destroy means to decay, ruin, corrupt, lose, perish, spill, spoil, or utterly waste. A non-tither can expect demonic spirits to cause their hard-earned increase to spoil, waste, or perish. Raises on jobs that that person should get will go to someone else. Accounts they should obtain will not be theirs. Investments that should produce gain will produce loss. Appliances and other things that should last will decay before the time.

The second form of the curse was their "vine would cast her fruit before the time in the field." What that means is the timing for increase would always be off. You never operate in God's divine timing. Doors will always open early or late in your life. Someone will always beat you to the punch. This is all because of the effects of the devouring spirits. When a person tithes, these effects will never happen. You will get the raises, you are supposed to get and those you are not supposed to get. Your things will last much longer than you expected. You will operate in God's divine timing and that will produce blessings in your life. People will ask you, "How did you get that? How did that come to you?" You will know why, it is because you tithe!

Today, return to God His tithe to stop the Effects of the Devourer.

Lesson

07

Your Tithe Causes Those Around You To Call You Blessed!

And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the Lord of hosts. (Malachi 3:12)

In this lesson, you will discover when you tithe; you cause those around you to call you blessed.

From the prior two lessons we know what happens to those who do not tithe; a curse is automatically released. This is true in the life of believers and non-believers alike. Therefore, in the Bible days, a nation that was not in covenant relationship with Jehovah could expect the locust, cankerworm, palmerworm, and caterpillar to devour their crops. Also, they couldn't expect the former and latter rain.

- I. Can you imagine what all the nations would say when all of their crops were being devoured by these four pests and the heavens refuse to open up and give them much needed rain? While the surrounding nations were experiencing famine, God's covenant people, Israel were experiencing prosperity because the insects that were eating everyone's crops never touched theirs. Also, every spring, when it was time to plant, God's people received the former rain. At harvest, again, God's people received the latter rain. Obviously, the heathen nations would wonder, why are we having so many problems with our crops, while Israel is having bountiful harvest after bountiful harvest? Those surrounding nations would have no other alternative but to call Israel blessed. This is what **Malachi 3:12** is teaching.

- II. When a believer tithes, the negative things affecting the lives of those around you will not affect you because God promised to protect you and everything you possess. The negative effects of the bad economy we are hearing much about today cannot affect

the life of a tither; this is what the Bible is teaching. Your increase will remain intact while everyone around you will see his increase falter. Your relatives, friends, co-workers, neighbors, and everyone else will fall victim to the difficulties of the economy, while you will see blessing after blessing. If you lose your job, it is only because God has a better one for you. If you lose your house, it is because God has a better one for you. If you lose anything, it is because God has something better for you because you are connected to the Abrahamic Covenant through your tithe.

The bible says that all nations shall call you blessed. The word blessed in the Hebrew is:

- *aw-share* = to be straight; to be level; to be right or happy; to go forward; to prosper; to guide; to lead; to relieve.

What the scripture is teaching us is that when you tithe, while everyone is going backward because of the negative effects of the devourer, you will be moving forward. Because you are moving forward and prospering supernaturally, you will be able to guide, lead, and relieve others who are under the curse because they don't tithe. What do you think they will call you when you do those things? That is right; they will call you just what **Malachi 3:12** says they will call you, blessed. They will see the blessings of the Lord on your life like Paradise, the garden of the Lord. That is what the scripture means when it says you will be a delightful land. Not only will you be blessed, but also you will be a blessing to others by sharing the message of the covenant with them when they need it the most, **Deuteronomy 8:18**.

Today, bring God His tithe and cause everyone around you to see the blessings of God on your life and call you blessed.

Lesson

08

You Tithe To Return To GOD And For GOD To Return To You

Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of hosts. But ye say, Wherein shall we return? (Malachi 3:7)

In this lesson, you will discover when a person tithes, who was not tithing in the past, it provides a means for them to return to God and a means for God to return to them.

- I. The key to embracing the teaching today is to first understand what happens when a person who should tithe, withholds his from the Lord. When a person robs God, by not giving God His tithe, it separates that person from God in terms of the covenant relationship established by the tithe in the first place. Remember the tithe is the covenant connector to the Abrahamic blessing introduced to Abraham in **Genesis 12:1-3**.

A believer's tithe connects him to this awesome promise or covenant God made with Abraham in the book of Genesis chapter twelve. Paul the Apostle tells us in **Galatians 3:7-9** that the same blessing, through covenant, that was on Abraham is on the believer through faith. In order to have the blessings of Abraham, you must do what Abraham did. What did Abraham do?

For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him; To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace. The blessings on Abraham's life made him very wealthy (**Hebrews 7:1-2**).

Abram had become very wealthy in livestock and in silver and gold (**Genesis 13:2**) (NIV).

Now Lot, who was moving about with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents. But the land could not support them while they stayed together, for their possessions were so great that they

were not able to stay together (**Genesis 13:5-6**) (NIV).

Abraham was so prosperous because he was connected to God through the tithe. When a believer does not tithe, he is separated from the covenant blessings of God. The solution to this tremendous problem is to return to God. If you return to God, **Malachi 3:7** says that He will return to you. The word return in **Malachi 3:7** means to come back again. This word is the twelfth most frequently used verb in the Old Testament used 1,051 times. It combines in itself the two requirements of repentance, (1) to turn from evil, (2) to turn to the good. What the Lord is telling you today is if you are not a tither, you can re-establish your rights to God's covenant blessings, which includes prosperity. In order to do so, you must tithe. When you return back to God by returning His tithe, you allow a covenant-keeping God to return to you. When God returns to you, He will return with the blessings of the Abrahamic covenant you are entitled to; prosperity, health, peace, joy, and love, etc.

Today, the will of God for you is to return to Him His tithe. Connect to the Abrahamic covenant and watch God prove Himself by releasing blessing after blessing into your life.

Lesson
09

The Curse Of The Curse

Ye are curse^d with a curse for ye have robbe^d me, even this whole nation.
(Malachi 3:9)

Ye are cursed with a curse for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation (**Malachi 3:9**).

In this lesson, you will start a new journey to understand the curses released in the life of a non-tither. I call it the Curse of the Curse.

In Lesson 6, we defined a curse as:

1. An evil that has been invoked upon one.
2. An appeal to a supernatural power for harm to come to a specific person, group, etc.
3. To call upon divine or supernatural power to send injury upon; to imprecate evil upon.

In **Malachi 3:9**, the LORD pronounced over the life of a non-tither, "Ye are cursed with a curse". For those of you who refuse to tithe, a curse has already been released in your life. The curse of **Malachi 3:9** is found in **Deuteronomy 28:15-68**. Today, we will deal with **Deuteronomy 28:15**, But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee

The first observation of **Deuteronomy 28** is that it contains 68 verses outlining the blessings of a tither and the curse of a non-tither. In this chapter, Jehovah pronounces blessings on the tither that covers 14 verses, while the curses He pronounces on a non-tither covers 58 verses. This speaks to us the degree of devastation the curse has released to erase the blessings Jehovah wants to release in the life of a person in covenant with Him. Think about this for a minute, it takes 58 verses of curses to erase 14 verses of blessings. That shows you the power of the blessings of the LORD.

In **Deuteronomy 28:15**, the LORD gives three requirements to receive the blessings and not the

curses of **Malachi 3** and **Deuteronomy 28**. They include: (1) hearken, (2) observe, and (3) do.

1. **hearken** = *shaw-mah'* = to hear intelligently with the implication of attention and obedience.
2. **observe** = *shaw-mar'* = to hedge about (as with thorns), to guard as a watchman, to protect, preserve.
3. **do** = *aw-saw'* = to accomplish, to advance, to be busy, to commit, to execute, to finish.

The Lord is telling you, as a believer who is in covenant with Him, to be blessed and escape the curses in **Deuteronomy 28**, you must intelligently hear the words of **Malachi 3** with the mindset to protect and preserve what you have heard, to execute or do what the Word says. It is like what someone experiences when they get a new job. Most companies give an orientation to all new employees. The purpose of the orientation is to show all new employees what is expected of them. During the orientation, someone gives each employee instructions they must (1) hear intelligently, (2) preserve, or keep what they have heard, in order to (3) execute or do what they have heard. What happens to the person who either does not take the orientation seriously, does not listen, or refuses to do what they have heard? Somewhere down the line, that person will fail to do the things necessary to be blessed and keep the job. Maybe they did not know they had to arrive on time. Maybe they were not listening when they should have gotten the dress code, times for breaks, or vacation time. What do you think will happen to that person? They will lose that job. In the same vein, those who do not hearken, observe, and do what is commanded in **Malachi 3** and **Deuteronomy 28** will lose the blessings of the Lord and inherit the curse.

Today, let us hearken, observe, and do the Word of the Lord by bringing all the tithe into the storehouse and watch the Lord open the windows of heaven and pour out a blessing that you will not have room enough to receive it. The Lord does not want anyone cursed, He wants everybody blessed.

Lesson

10

The Curse Of Location

Curse shalt thou be in the city, an curse shalt thou be in the field.
(Deuteronomy 28:16)

In this lesson, you will discover how the curse actually manifests in the life of a non-tither. We will actually find out from scripture, how the curse of **Deuteronomy 28** affects specific areas in the life of a non-tither. I call it the Curse of Location.

- I. **Deuteronomy 28:16** - Cursed shalt thou be in the city, and cursed shalt thou be in the field. Jehovah is telling His covenant people that part of the curse is wherever you find yourself, the curse follows you. When you try to move to a different area because you seem not to be experiencing prosperity where you presently live, the change of scenery will do you no good. The reason is because lack and poverty are a part of the curse no matter where you live. You cannot escape the curse of **Deuteronomy 28** by changing residency; the only way to escape the curse of **Deuteronomy 28** is to repent or change your mind as it relates to God's tithe.

- II. **Deuteronomy 28:17** - Cursed shall be thy basket and thy store. The basket was used to gather the fruit and other produce from the field. Israel used it to reap their harvest of blessings. Jehovah was telling Israel that the thing they depended upon to bring blessings into their house, the basket, was cursed. What the basket was designed to do, it could not do because of the curse. Today, people depend upon a number of things to bring blessings to their lives. Education, connections, talents, experience, creativity, etc. The Bible is teaching us what your hard earned education should do, it cannot do; what your talents should do, they cannot do; what your experience should do, it cannot do; what your creativity should do, it cannot do. The curse, which is the result of a person not tithing, deactivates all things that should bring blessings into your life. The curse renders these things incapable of producing. For a non-tither, the things that should produce are rendered weak, ineffective, ineffectual, and incapable.

It is like a woman who has done something to cause herself to be barren or incapable of having children. Maybe she had too many sexual partners and it caused her to contract a sexually transmitted disease that rendered her incapable of having a child. On the other hand, maybe she had an abortion that damaged her reproductive organs. In either case, that woman had to have portions of her reproductive system removed or a total hysterectomy. The damage to her female body has caused her not to be able to produce children no matter how she longed to have a child.

When a person does not tithe, he is just like the childless woman. The non-tither is incapable of producing blessings because of what that individual has done. In the barren woman's case, she has no one to blame, but herself. In the life of a non-tither, that person has no one to blame, but himself. In the case of the barren woman, her only hope of having a child is for God to turn things around. She needs God to do something she is incapable of doing.

Many of you are in the same place where many barren women have found themselves. It is like the situation with Hanna in **1Samuel 1:4-6, 11-17, 19-20, and 24**. Your financial situation is in shambles because of your decision not to tithe. You need God to turn things around. God will return to you with the blessings you deserve as He did for Hanna. **Malachi 3:7{b}** says, "Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return? Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it (**Malachi 3:10**).

Today, return to God His tithe to avoid the Curse of Location.

Lesson

11

The Curse of Offspring

Curse shall be the fruit of thy bo•y, an• the fruit of thy lan•, the increase of thy kine, an• the flocks of thy sheep. (Deuteronomy 28:18)

In this lesson, you will discover that the curse of Deuteronomy 28 affects your children. I call it the Curse of Offspring.

Every action has a reaction. This biblical truth is found in:

- I. **Galatians 6:7-** Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. Every action causes a corresponding reaction. Sometimes what you do causes something else to happen to you. At other times, what you do causes something to happen to someone else. Think about a woman who is three months pregnant and is told by her doctor not to drink alcohol or take drugs. Instead of listening to the wisdom of her doctor, she continues to smoke marijuana. Three months later, when she delivers her baby girl prematurely at six months, the growth and the development of the baby's nervous system is affected negatively. Not only that, but as the child matures she will have problems focusing her attention and solving problems; and as she gets older, will also have problems with short-term memory, concentration, and judgment. In addition to smoking marijuana, this mother also drank alcohol while she was pregnant, which caused her little premature baby girl to be mentally retarded. Lastly, this unwise mother's alcohol consumption caused her daughter to have abnormal facial features, including small eyes, a thin upper lip and smooth skin in place of the normal groove between the nose and upper lip. For the rest of this little girl's childhood, her schoolmates and the neighbors will laugh at her and call her names.

All of this happened because of what the mother did. Her actions caused something to happen to her child. For the non-tither, this same dilemma takes place. Your refusal to tithe causes things to happen to your children. Listen to the Word of the Lord:

Deuteronomy 28:18 (NIV) - The fruit of your womb will be cursed, and the crops of your land, and the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks.

The Word is teaching that part of the curse of **Deuteronomy 28**, for the non-tither is, negative things can happen to your children. I believe the reason children of believers are having all kinds of problems is because parents will not tithe. Could it be that homosexuality and lesbianism in children are connected to non-tithing? Could it be that drug and alcohol addiction is connected to non-tithing? Could it be that criminal behavior in children is connected to non-tithing? Could it be that multiple children, born to young unwed parents, is connected to non-tithing? The list goes on and on. I want everyone who has children, who seem to be cursed, look at your tithing record. If you are a non-tither, the Bible says your non-tithing has released a curse on your children. What should you do? Repent, ask God's forgiveness, and lift the curse off your children by returning to God His tithe today. For the tither, their children are blessed (**Deuteronomy 28:4{a}**) (**NASB**), "Blessed shall be the offspring of your body."

Today, bless your children by blessing God with His tithe.

Lesson

12

The Curse of Sickness and Disease

The Lord shall smite thee with a consumption, and with a fever, and with an inflammation, and with an extreme burning, and with the sword, and with blasting, and with mildew; and they shall pursue thee until thou perish.

(Deuteronomy 28:22)

The Lord shall smite thee with a consumption, and with a fever, and with an inflammation, and with an extreme burning, and with the sword, and with blasting, and with mildew; and they shall pursue thee until thou perish **Deuteronomy 28:22**.

*In this lesson, you will discover a very serious matter; I call it the **Curse of Sickness and Disease**.*

Health professionals will tell you that you are what you eat. What you consume on a daily basis determines how healthy you are. We are constantly told the consumption of some foods causes health problems such as heart disease, diabetes, cancer, blood pressure issues, etc.

It always amazes me how some people know that pork and beef causes heart problems, yet they still eat as much as they can. They battle with clogged arteries, enlarged hearts, heart failure, and cholesterol problems, greatly reducing their quality of life. These unwise souls continue to eat meat day after day as if they do not believe what the medical community is telling them. It is as if they accept their personal non-professional opinion over people who are experts in this area. Doctors and other medical professionals have developed their view of these health problems over years of experience and testing. Whether you believe it or not, as a meat eater, the diet you have chosen could be at the root of your health problems.

All of you who do not pay your tithes, whether you believe it or not, can cause you to experience physical problems. If you are experiencing any of the physical problems I will talk about shortly, check your tithing record. It could be that your lack of tithing is causing you to be sick.

Deuteronomy 28:22 lists six diseases that can come upon the person who will not tithe:

1. **The consumption** – called the wasting disease. The most common form of the disease is tuberculosis of the lungs. The intestines, bones and joints, skin, genitourinary, lymphatic, and nervous systems may also be affected.
2. **A fever** - burning inflammatory fever.
3. **Inflammation** - rapidly consuming cancer.
4. **Extreme burning** - this refers, not only to excruciating inflammations on the body, but also to the irritation and agony of a mind utterly abandoned by God, and lost to hope.
5. **Blasting** - rashes, seizures, and dehydration.
6. **Mildew or Jaundice** - a yellowish tinge to the skin and the white part of the eye that is caused by an excess of bilirubin in the blood. Body fluids may also be yellow.

If you or someone in your immediate family is experiencing any of these physical problems, and do not tithe, there is a connection. The word of God is right. **Romans 3:3-4{a}** For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? [4] God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar. You cannot expect to do the same thing repeatedly and expect to see different results. If you are a non-tither and you are experiencing the physical problems I spoke about today or any other physical problems, why not try tithing and see if the Lord will turn things around. Your health is one of the most important possessions you have. Keep your health intact by remaining in covenant with the Lord by bringing Him his tithe. For those of you who are healthy and paying your tithes, keep up the good work and keep your health intact.

For those of you who are not paying your tithes and are experiencing physical problems, repent today and return to the Lord His tithe and be set free from your illnesses. It is that easy. The choice is yours!

Today, return to God His tithe to avoid the Curse of Sickness and Disease.

Lesson

13

The Curse of the Brassy Heaven

And thy heaven that is over thy head shall be brass, and the earth that is under thee shall be iron. (Deuteronomy 28:23)

*In this lesson, you will discover one aspect of the curse of Deuteronomy 28 that everyone should know about. I call it the **Curse of the Brassy Heaven**.*

In the scriptures, the Lord uses symbolic language to help us understand spiritual truths. For instance, in **Revelation 1:14-15**, John the revelator sees the glorified Christ. His image of JESUS is filled with symbolism. These symbols are things we are familiar with that helps us understand spiritual truths.

Revelation 1:14-15 - His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; [15] And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters. Here are the symbols and their meaning:

1. **His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow** –White hair symbolizes an aged man, a father; so JESUS is represented as the Ancient of Days (**Daniel 7:13**) or the everlasting father (**Isaiah 9:6**).
2. **His eyes were as a flame of fire** – Fire represents the ability to penetrate anything; the eyes of JESUS represents His eyes penetrating every situation. He has all-seeing eyes; He is omniscient and sees everything.
3. **His voice as the sound of many waters** – This has to deal with the thunderous clashing of the waves against the rocks which indicated the power of the sea; the voice of JESUS is the powerful voice of the God of creation and what He says thunders with the power of fulfillment.

4. **His feet like unto fine brass as if they burned in a furnace** - Brass which is an alloy of copper and zinc, is the same as copper in the scripture (**Deuteronomy 8:9**). It was used for fetters, which were shackles or chains used for binding prisoners by either the wrists or ankles (**2 Kings 25:7**). Brass is a symbol of judgment (**Exodus 38:1-6**). Samson, one of Israel's greatest judges, shows us the connection between judgment and brass as he reaps the rewards of not obeying the Word of the Lord.

But the Philistines took him, and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he did grind in the prison house **Judges 16:21**.

When Moses, in **Deuteronomy 28:23** said, concerning the person who won't tithe, "*The heavens over his head will be brass,*" he is saying a number of things:

1. The judgment of God is upon that person.
2. The heavens that should be a source of blessing (**Malachi 3:10**), is now a source of the curse.
3. Instead of heaven being opened over that person, it is closed and no blessings can flow out of it.
4. The heavens are not able to be penetrated and that person's prayers cannot reach the throne of God.
5. God's prophetic Word cannot come down from heaven to bless that individual's life.

The heavens over a non-tither's head are brass and unable to be penetrated simply because of disobedience. If you are experiencing any or all of the symptoms above, check your tithing record. There is only one thing you can do in order to open the heavens over you. **Malachi 3:10**, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Today, repent and change your mind about God's tithe.

Today, bring God His tithe and watch your heavens open and release tremendous and bountiful blessings in your life!

Lesson

14

The Curse of the Iron Earth

And thy heaven that is over thy head shall be brass, and the earth that is under thee shall be iron. (Deuteronomy 28:23)

In this lesson, you will discover another aspect of the curse that robs people of the blessings of the LORD. I call it the Curse of the Iron Earth.

God set a principle in the earth realm in the beginning of creation; it governs all that happens on our planet. This principle is found in **Genesis 8:22**, “While the earth remaineth, seed time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease”. The scripture is teaching that as long as there is an earth, sowing, waiting, and reaping will govern the affairs on the earth. Sowing governs the blessings of the Lord in your life. If you want to reap a harvest of blessings, you must sow into the Kingdom of God. The Bible is full of scriptures supporting this principle:

1. **Galatians 6:7 (NIV)** - Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.
2. **2 Corinthians 9:6** - But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.
3. **Ecclesiastes 11:6 (NIV)** - Sow your seed in the morning, and at evening let your hands not be idle, for you do not know which will succeed, whether this or that, or whether both will do equally well.

Your prosperity is based upon your ability to sow seed into the Kingdom of God. Your seed is not your tithe, but your offering. Think about this, according to **2 Corinthians 6:9**, a person reaps in relationship to how he sows. If you give a little, you get a little in return. If you give a lot, you will receive a lot in return. The reason the tithe cannot be your seed is because the tithe is a set amount, 10 percent; that never changes. Therefore, your seed must be your offering. You reap the blessings of God in relationship to how you give or sow your offerings. If you give a little offering, you will receive a little harvest in return. If you give a huge offering, you can expect a large harvest in return.

This is so important because according to **Deuteronomy**, for the non-tither, it is impossible to sow offerings. One of the major purposes of the earth is to receive seed from the sower. The reason it is impossible to sow is because the Bible says in **Deuteronomy 28:23**, "... and the earth that is under thee shall be iron." Iron in this scripture is a symbol of a hard barren soil; soil so hard that it cannot receive seed. Soil that cannot receive seed cannot produce a harvest. The scripture is clear for the person who will not tithe. It is a fact that your tithe is connected to your offering. Your lack of tithing paralyzes the offering's ability to produce a harvest. Many people wonder why their offering seems to be powerless, ineffective, and incapable of producing a harvest. The answer lies in the tithe. Expecting your offering to produce a harvest without returning to God His tithe is like expecting a car to drive without a battery. In order for the car to drive, you must connect the battery to the car. In order for the offering to work for you and produce a harvest, you must connect it to the tithe. Your tithe will cause an earth that is hard like iron to be soft and able to receive your seed and produce the harvest you need for your life. Say this with me, *"My tithe causes my offering to be effective."* *"My tithe causes my offering to have the power to multiply."*

Today, return to God His tithe and cause the earth under you to receive your seed and produce the harvest God intended for His covenant people!

Lesson

15

The Curse of Heaven's Powder and Dust

The Lord shall make the rain of thy land powder and dust: from heaven shall it come down upon thee, until thou be destroyed. (Deuteronomy 28:24)

In this lesson, you will discover another aspect of the curse of the non-tither. I call it the Curse of Heaven's Powder and Dust.

Isn't it amazing how things that should bring you happiness, brings you sadness? All of us have experienced situations like that before. For some of you it was a child who initially brought you happiness. You were so happy when you found out that you were going to be a new parent. Not only that, but you also could not wait to have your child's first birthday party, inviting all the little friends you could contact. You also had big dreams for your kid as you could see the bright future you knew would be a part of his life. As time went on, things started to take a turn for the worse. By the time your child was a teen or in his early twenties, who should have brought you tremendous joy, began to bring you tremendous sadness. There are many reasons for this:

1. A teenaged boy who gets hooked on drugs.
2. A teenaged girl who gets pregnant before the time.
3. A teenaged boy or girl who goes to jail instead of college.
4. A young boy or girl who senses the gay lifestyle.
5. A young person who dies of HIV/AIDS.
6. A young adult who joins a cult like the Mormons, Nation of Islam, or Jehovah Witnesses.
7. A young adult who once had a promising future, lives in the street and drinks his life away.

From out of the skies God will rain ash and dust down on you until you suffocate,

Deuteronomy 28:24 (The Message).

Think about this for a moment, rain, which from a biblical point of view is usually a source of blessing, but is now a source of the curse. Jehovah is telling His covenant people, instead of raining life-giving water from heaven, He is going to cause the heavens to rain sand and dust. In the Middle East, whole caravans were buried under showers of sand. Thereunto, a French traveler, who observed these showers of dust, said, "They grievously annoy all they fall on, filling their eyes, ears, nostrils, etc."; an excerpt from *Travels in the East*. Can you imagine sand and dust falling from the sky like rain because people refused to follow the Word of the Lord and tithe? Rain which should be a source of blessing is now a source of sorrow. What that means for the person who refuses to tithe, will see the same phenomenon. Things that should bring happiness will bring sadness.

1. The car you just bought that should bring you years of solid performance stays in the mechanic shop.
2. The new house that should bring you happiness goes into foreclosure and pushes you into bankruptcy.
3. Your good health which helps you enjoy life takes a sudden turn for the worse and eats all your savings.
4. Your business that should have given you a great future, because of litigation, keeps you in the red.
5. The person you married, whom you thought was the love of your life, is now asking for a divorce.

I could go on and on, but you get the picture. The Bible is teaching, for the person who will not tithe, things that should be sources of blessings will be sources of the curse. What you need to do if that is your present life situation is change your mind today; repent and return to God His tithe.

Malachi 3:10, Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Today, return to God His tithe and cause the rain to bless instead of curse.

Lesson

16

The Curse of the Enemy Attack

The Lord shall cause thee to be smitten before thine enemies: thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them: and shalt be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth. (Deuteronomy 28:25)

In this lesson, you will discover four attacks of the Egyptians. I call it the Curse of the Enemy Attack.

It is a known fact, historically; the people of God always had enemies. It does not matter how old you are, what your financial status is in life, or what your race is, if you name the name of the Lord, you will have enemies. The concept of an enemy is not foreign to the Word of God. The word enemy or enemies appears 367 times in the King James Version and is seen throughout the Old Testament and the New Testament.

The Egyptians were enemies to the people of God and treated them cruelly for 430 years. The following is what the Bible says about how the Egyptians, as enemies, treated the people of God:

1. **Exodus 1:11 (NIV)** - So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labor, and they built Pithom and Rameses as store cities for Pharaoh.
2. **Exodus 1:14 (NIV)** - They made their lives bitter with harsh labor in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their harsh labor the Egyptians worked them ruthlessly.
3. **Exodus 1:15-16 (NIV)** - The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, whose names were Shiphrah and Puah, [16] "When you are helping the Hebrew women during childbirth the delivery stool, if you see that the baby is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live."
4. **Exodus 1:22 (NIV)** - Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: "Every Hebrew boy that is born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live."

An enemy is defined as: One who feels hatred toward, intends injury to, or opposes the interests of another. When you have an enemy as a covenant person, this is the promise of God for you.

Deuteronomy 28:7 (NIV) - The Lord will grant that the enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you. They will come at you from one direction but flee from you in seven.

Instead of this promised protection, the curse is just the opposite for a person who will not keep the commandment of the Lord and tithe. **Deuteronomy 28:25 (The Message)**, God will defeat you by enemy attack. You'll come at your enemies on one road and run away on seven roads. All the kingdoms of Earth will see you as a horror.

All of us had enemies too strong for us to defeat. Enemies show up on the job, in school, in the neighborhood, and sometimes in our families. The word of the Lord teaches, for the non-tither, instead of Jehovah God defeating your enemies, your enemies will conquer you and cause you to flee away from them seven ways. Seven is the number of completion. Your defeat will be complete and total without a chance of victory. Today, if you have enemies causing you to be defeated and there seems to be no remedy, I want you to check your tithing record. God promised to fight for the person who is in covenant with Him through the tithe. If your enemy is bringing total defeat in your life, no matter how you pray, come to church, cry, or go to those who should help, you should make sure you are returning to God His tithe.

Today, I want everyone to do the right thing and allow God to fight for you by returning to Him His tithe.

Lesson

17

The Curse of Egypt (Part I)

The Lord will smite thee with the botch of Egypt, and with the emerods, and with the scab, and with the itch, whereof thou canst not be healed.

(Deuteronomy 28:27)

The Lord will smite thee with the botch of Egypt, and with the emerods, and with the scab, and with the itch, whereof thou canst not be healed. **(Deuteronomy 28:27)**

Egyptians were one of Israel's greatest enemies and judgment against the Egyptians has always been very great.

Exodus 15:26 - And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee.

Jehovah God has always wanted to bless His covenant people because they served and obeyed Him. He always wanted to treat His people differently from the way He treated the Egyptians. **Exodus 11:7**, but against any of the children of Israel shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast: that ye may know how that the Lord doth put a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.

Whenever the people of God fail to keep His commandments, which include the tithe, the same curses that fall upon the heathen nations, as the Egyptians, will fall upon God's covenant people.

Deuteronomy 28:27 (NIV) - The Lord will afflict you with the boils of Egypt and with tumors, festering sores and the itch, from which you cannot be cured. Think about this for a moment, the curse of Egypt will fall on a covenant person simply because that individual refuses to keep the commandment of God and return to God His tithe.

Let's explore what the curse of Egypt entails. All these symptoms of the curse are taken from **Deuteronomy 28:27**:

1. **The Lord will smite thee with the botch of Egypt** – botch (Hebrew) - to burn; inflammation; an ulcer a boil:
This is a violent inflammatory swelling marked by red pimples on your body.
2. **With the emerods** – emrods (Hebrew) - to be elevated; raised up; swellings:
These are internal and external hemorrhoids. The external version of hemorrhoids is often accompanied by swelling and irritation, itching, rectal pain, and rectal bleeding.
3. **The scab** – the disease scab is another name for scurvy. The symptoms of scurvy include: (1) internal bleeding in the tissues; (2) spots that look like small blood-blisters, red in color and blotches purple in color; (3) a very weak, pale, and depressed look; (4) a delay in the healing of wounds; (5) exhaustion, diarrhea, fainting, kidney, or lung disease; (6) very dry, pale skin and hair; (7) severe weakness and nausea, etc.
4. **The itch** – an acute infectious disease of the skin or mucous membranes caused by a streptococcus and characterized by local inflammation and fever.

The thing that makes these four diseases so devastating is that the Word says there is no cure for them. The solution for this curse is the same for the other curses in **Deuteronomy 28, Malachi 3:10**, Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, your tithe is the source of your healing.

Today, return to God His tithe and be healed.

Lesson
18

The Curse of Egypt (Part II)

The Lord shall smite thee with madness, and blindness, and astonishment of heart. (Deuteronomy 28:28)

*In this lesson, you will discover three other manifestations of the curse of Egypt for the non-tither. I call it the **Curse of Egypt, Part II.***

Let's read this text from a few other versions of the Bible:

1. **Deuteronomy 28:28 (The Message)** - He'll make you go crazy and blind and senile.
2. **Deuteronomy 28:28 (AMP)** - The Lord will smite you with madness and blindness and dismay of [*mind and*] heart.
3. **Deuteronomy 28:28 (NIV)** - The Lord will afflict you with madness, blindness and confusion of mind.

This is what the curse entails:

1. **The Lord shall smite thee with madness** – distraction so you will not know what to do
2. **And blindness** – blindness, both physical and mental; (*verse 27*), destroying their eyes and the judgments of God confounding their understandings.
3. **Astonishment** – stupidity and amazement. By the just judgments of God, they were completely confounded, as not to discern the means by which they might prevent or remove their calamities, and to adopt those which led directly to their ruin. *"Those whom God is determined to destroy, He first infatuates."*

What makes these three manifestations of the curse so devastating is that the Word says there is no cure for them. The solution for this curse is the same for the other curses in **Deuteronomy 28**, **Malachi 3:10**, Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and

pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, your tithe is the source of your healing.

Today, return to God His tithe and be healed.

Lesson

19

The Curse of Egypt (Part III)

An^e thou shalt grope at noon^e ay, as the blind^e gropeth in ^earkness, an^e thou shalt not prosper in thy ways: an^e thou shalt be only oppresse^e an^e spoile^e evermore, an^e no man shall save thee. (Deuteronomy 28:29)

*In this lesson, you will discover another form of the Curse of Egypt that manifests in four different ways. I call it the **Curse of Egypt, Part III**.*

- I. **Deuteronomy 28:29{a} (The Message)** - You will grope around in the middle of the day like a blind person feeling his way through a lifetime of darkness; you'll never get to where you're going.

This part of the curse deals with proper decision-making and right choices. You will be surprised how the Lord helps you make the right decisions when you are in covenant with Him through the tithe. When a person is not in covenant with God, he always seems to make wrong decisions about marriage, major purchases like houses, cars, investments, etc. In dealing with this part of the curse, you constantly make wrong choices and have no explanation for why or how.

- II. **Deuteronomy 28:29{b} (NIV)** - You will be unsuccessful in everything you do.

This aspect of the curse means no matter how you try, this part of the curse makes it impossible for you to prosper. It does not matter with whom you network with, how you get your ideas, or how many investors you are able to amass, you will fail every time. No matter how hard or long a person works, success will never be

- III. **Deuteronomy 28:29{c} (The Message)** - Not a day will go by that you're not abused and robbed.

This part of the curse is very interesting because it brings to the surface a degree of irony that is unmistakable. This aspect of the curse teaches, for the individual who robs God by not tithing, every day that person will be robbed of something. You can be robbed of more than money. You can be robbed of opportunities, ideas, promotions, relationships, your reputation, etc. Remember **Galatians 6:7 (NIV)**, "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows".

IV. Deuteronomy 28:29{d} (The Message) - And no one is going to help you.

This part of the curse, so overwhelming for the person who will not tithe is that the Lord will make sure no one will be able to help you. Some will not help because their situation is so grave, they will not be able to do so. However, some will not want to help and others will not even be aware that you need assistance. What makes this curse so horrific is that not even God Himself will lend a hand of support. The only solution for this curse is to fulfill the Word as found in **Malachi 3:10 (The Message)**, Bring your full tithe to the Temple treasury so there will be ample provisions in my Temple. Test me in this and see if I don't open up heaven itself to you and pour out blessings beyond your wildest dreams.

Today, return to God His tithe and watch the Lord bless you beyond your greatest expectation.

Lesson

20

The Curse Of Domestic Life

Thou shalt betroth a wife, and another man shall lie with her: thou shalt build an house, and thou shalt not dwell therein: thou shalt plant a vineyard, and shalt not gather the grapes thereof. (Deuteronomy 28:30)

In this lesson, you will discover another very powerful aspect of the curse of the non-tither. I call it the **Curse of Domestic Life**.

Everyone wants to have a happy and successful life especially as it pertains to how things happen in our homes. For a great portion of us, especially those who are in covenant with God, this is exactly what we have. We have great marriages. Our finances are in great shape and getting better all the time. Our property and possessions bring us happiness. Lastly, our investments are yielding a return that we know will provide a great retirement. Many people do not know this, but the Lord takes great delight when His people prosper.

Psalm 35:27 - Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the Lord be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant. If it is the will of God for His people to prosper, why are there so many who are not experiencing His bountiful blessings? Part of the reason is found in **Deuteronomy 28:30**. For the person who refuses to tithe, the Word of God lists three things that are the result of this enormous mistake:

- I. **Deuteronomy 28:30{a}** (**The Message**) - You'll get engaged to a woman and another man will take her for his mistress.

This part of the curse eats at the core of human existence. It primarily deals with the problem with marital relations. What could be more devastating than being engaged to another person and have someone else steal the love of your life from you and take that person as his own? This happens to people prior to and during marriage. This, in many instances, is the result of the curse of Domestic Life. How many people you know are suffering from shattered marital relations and wonder

what happened? What causes a person who vowed to be faithful, to cheat on their spouse? The word teaches us that this happens to a person who will not tithe.

II. **Deuteronomy 28:30{b} (The Message)** - You'll build a house and never live in it.

How can a person build a house and never live in it? There are many reasons this can happen and all of them can be traced to the curse of domestic life:

1. A person acquires a new house, but loses his job and is forced into foreclosure.
2. A person acquires a new house, but because of sickness, dies before spending one day in the house.
3. A person acquires a new house, but goes through a divorce and the house is sold to someone else.

III. **Deuteronomy 28:30{c} (The Message)** -You'll plant a garden and never eat so much as a carrot.

This aspect of the curse deals with sowing and reaping. Everyone should reap blessings from whatever he sows. When a person fails to tithe, the things individuals should reap as a harvest will never come because the curse of domestic life has kicked in. The solution to erasing these negative experiences is to return to the Lord His tithe. Remember the tithe is holy according to **Leviticus 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.

Today, return to God His tithe, change your domestic life, and live the abundant life the Lord promised all of us who are in covenant with Him.

Lesson
21

The Curse Of Parenthood

Thy sons and thy daughters shall be given unto another people, and thine eyes shall look, and fail with longing for them all the day long: and there shall be no might in thine hand. (Deuteronomy 28:32)

*In this lesson, you will discover another aspect of the curse of the non-tither. I call it the **Curse of Parenthood.***

Everyone wants their children to be the ideal kids. We brag on how well they do in school; how well they show off their talents; and we even talk to people about their good looks. We do this because we love our children and they are a product of what we are. For most of you who are parents, your children are what you have made them to be. The old adage is true, "The fruit doesn't fall far away from the tree." Your children for the most part, have become what you have made them to be. Your actions have produced your children.

Most of you would shutter if you thought the negative behaviors you see manifesting in your children are a product of your actions. Well, **Deuteronomy 28:32** teaches that negative behaviors in children can be traced back to the parents who will not tithe. Let's look at that text from two other translations:

Deuteronomy 28:32 (The Message) - Your sons and daughters will be shipped off to foreigners; you'll wear your eyes out looking vainly for them, helpless to do a thing.

What this means is for the non-tither, your children will be connected with people you or they do not know. The King James Version uses the terminology "another people" which means strange people. If you cry at night because your children are connected to strange people, check your tithing record. If you shutter when they bring strange people home, check your tithing record. If you get that fearful feeling in your stomach when strangers call your house, check your tithing record. When your kids are being led astray by hanging around strange people, check your tithing.

Deuteronomy 28:32 (NIV) - Your sons and daughters will be given to another nation, and you will wear out your eyes watching for them day after day, powerless to lift a hand.

The second aspect of the **Curse of Parenthood** is when strange people are leading your children to strange places to do strange things; you will not know where to find them. The Message Bible says you will wear your eyes out looking vainly for them, but you will be helpless to find them and give them assistance. How many of you today have children, and most of the time you don't have a clue where they are or what they are doing? Your child spends days, and for some, weeks away from home and you don't know when they will return. When you ask them where they have been, they just say, "out." If you do not tithe and you are experiencing any of these negative consequences, the Bible says that your actions are contributing to your children's negative behavior.

I believe many of the negative behavior, such as drug addiction, promiscuity, gang affiliations, prostitution, theft, homosexuality, lesbianism, poor grades, etc., we see in children today can be traced back to **Deuteronomy 28:32**. If you are a parent and your children fall in either of these categories, break the curse over your child's life today by returning to God His tithe. God is telling you that your tithe will separate your children from the strange people and bring them back home where they belong.

Today return to God His tithe and be a blessing to the future of your children.

Lesson
22

The Curse Of Strangers

The fruit of thy land, and all thy labors, shall a nation which thou knowest not eat up; and thou shalt be only oppressed and crushed always: [34] So that thou shalt be made for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see.

(Deuteronomy 28:33-34)

*In this lesson, you will discover another aspect of the curse. I call it the **Curse of Strangers**.*

One thing so great about America is, for the most part, you reap what you sow. If you work hard, your hard work will pay off with a quality of life that is very pleasant. You are able to buy what you want and need for yourself and your family. Forbes Magazine lists the Top Ten Richest People in America in 2012^[2]:

1. **Bill Gates** – Microsoft Corporation \$66 Billion
2. **Warren Buffet** – Berkshire Hathaway \$46 Billion
3. **Larry Ellison** – Oracle \$41 Billion
4. **Charles Koch** – Koch Industries \$31 Billion
5. **David Koch** – Manufacturing and Energy \$31 Billion
6. **Christy Walton** – Wal-Mart \$27.9 Billion
7. **Jim Walton** – Wal-Mart \$26.8 Billion
8. **Alice Walton** – Wal-Mart \$26.3 Billion
9. **Robson Walton** – Wal-Mart \$26.1 Billion
10. **Michael Bloomberg** – NY Mayor \$25 Billion

We celebrate people because of their accomplishments, as well as those who are not as rich, but make a nice living and show the fruit of their labor. The curse of the Stranger interrupts this public display of your hard-earned increase.

Deuteronomy 28:33-34 (The Message) - Your crops and everything you work for will be eaten and used by foreigners; you'll spend the rest of your life abused and knocked around. What you see will drive you crazy.

The Word is teaching the person who refuses to tithe, instead of enjoying your hard-earned money, people you do not know will reap the benefits of it. How does this affect us today? Here is a list of ways the curse of the Strangers kick in:

1. You pay more in taxes than a tither in your same tax bracket.
2. You pay more in child support than a tither who has the same number of kids.
3. You pay more for the same necessities than a tither.
4. Your cars, clothes, shoes, appliances, electronics, etc., doesn't last as long as a tither's.
5. You pay out more money in fines, penalties, and other fees, than a tither.
6. Your poor health causes you to spend money that a tither never spends.

People you don't know have possession of the money you worked hard for. The Bible says that it will bring you so much grief that it will drive you crazy. The solution for the curse of the Stranger is to return to God His tithe and He will return to you your increase. It is that simple! According to **Deuteronomy 28:11-14 (The Message)**, God will lavish you with good things: children from your womb, offspring from your animals, and crops from your land; the land God promised your ancestors He would give you. God will throw open the doors of His sky vaults and pour rain on your land on schedule and bless the work you take in hand. You will lend to many nations, but you won't have to take out a loan. God will make you the head, not the tail; you'll always be the top dog, never the bottom dog as you obediently listen to and diligently keep the commands of God.

Today, return to God His tithe and allow His blessings to manifest in your life.

Lesson
23

The Curse Of Idolatry

The Lor^e shall bring thee, an^e thy king which thou shalt set over thee, unto a nation which neither thou nor thy fathers have known; an^e there shalt thou serve other go^es, woo^e an^e stone. An^e thou shalt become astonishment, a proverb, an^e a bywor^e; among all nations whither the Lor^e shall lea^e thee.
(Deuteronomy 28:36-37)

In this lesson, you will discover another awesome aspect of the curse. I call it the Curse of Idolatry.

Every Bible reader, at some point in time, has read the Ten Commandments. I tell people all the time these are not ten suggestions. They are commandments! A commandment is an authoritative order requiring obedience. When Jehovah gave Israel these words, He established laws to keep His covenant people in favor with Him. If Israel would be blessed above all nations, they had to live by the Ten Commandments. The first of the Ten Commandments is found in **Exodus 20:3**; Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Jehovah was telling Israel in this first commandment that in order for them to reap the benefits of the covenant, no other gods could be in the picture. God does not like competition when it comes to His special people. He wants to be our only God. This first commandment is the foundation for the rest of the nine commandments and the key word in the first commandment is "before" meaning: above; over; upon; against; after; among; beside; between; and by.

What makes the curse of Idolatry so profound is the person who will not tithe; God is saying the Lord is going to initiate factors in the life of His people causing them to follow other gods. In **Deuteronomy 28:36**, the way Jehovah said He would lead His people into idolatry is by bringing Israel and their king into a nation they or their fathers have not known. When people are taken out of their homeland and thrust into a nation with other beliefs, people will eventually take on the belief system of that nation. This is the curse of Idolatry. What makes this curse so damnable is because it is initiated by God based on the decision made by His covenant people. Let's see what happens when the people of God break the first commandment:

Judges 2:11-15 (The Message) - The people of Israel did evil in God's sight: they served Baal-gods; they deserted God, the God of their parents who had led them out of Egypt; and they took up with other gods, the gods of the people around them. They actually worshiped them! And oh, how they angered God as they worshiped god Baal and goddess Astarte! God's anger was hot against Israel: He handed them off to plunderers who stripped them; He sold them cheap to enemies on all sides. They were helpless before their enemies. Every time they walked out the door, God was with them but for evil, just as God said, just as He swore, He would do. They were in a bad way.

This same scenario is being played out in the lives of believers today. What many people do not understand is that the tithe is what connects you to the covenant of God. When a person is not connected to God's covenant, he is an idolater. There is something stopping that individual from worshipping God through covenant. The only thing that keeps anyone from being in covenant with God is idolatry or having an idol. An idol is anything you place before God. Remember **Exodus 20:3**, Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Anything you place before God is an idol, including you. When you refuse to tithe, you are placing yourself before God and you are guilty of self-worship. There are many people who are guilty of self-worship and do not know it. Whenever you serve self, instead of serving God, you become the object of worship. According to **Deuteronomy 28:36**, you will eventually serve other gods. Numerous people wonder how they became like the people around them, who seem to know nothing about God; serving the gods of this age. I believe that in many instances, you can trace it back to worshipping self, instead of God by refusing to tithe. Those who refuse to tithe are guilty of self-worship. The Lord tells us in **Deuteronomy 28:36** that this person will eventually serve other gods.

Today, the solution to the Curse of Idolatry is to return to God His tithe and stay in covenant with Him.

Lesson

24

The Tither's Promise

And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth. (Deuteronomy 28:1)

In this lesson, you will discover a promise from Deuteronomy 28:1. I call it the Tither's Promise.

Has someone ever made you a promise and when the time came for the promise to be fulfilled, you were greatly disappointed because the individual failed to live up to the promise made? We see this quite frequently in marital relationships. During the marital vows given at many weddings, people promise to love and to cherish until death parts them. Statistics tell us that half of the people who make this promise will fail to live up to it. There are many reasons people fail to live up to this binding vow. The major reason I feel is people change. They change for a number of reasons. Changing circumstances is one of the primary factors that cause people not to live up to the promises they make. Think about it, suddenly a person experiences mental or physical sickness, a down turn in finances, or is convicted of some kind of offense that causes incarceration; these sudden changes can easily cause a spouse to break his marital promise of lasting until death alone parts them.

Thank God that no matter what happens, the Lord will never change:

1. **Malachi 3:6** - For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.
2. **Malachi 3:6 (The Message)** - I am God—yes, I Am. I haven't changed. And because I haven't changed, you, the descendants of Jacob, haven't been destroyed.
3. **Malachi 3:6 (AMP)** - For I am the Lord, I do not change; that is why you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed.

The scripture teaches that no matter what the situation is, the Lord is going to hold up His end of the bargain. He will not change His mind. The key to receiving the blessing from the Lord is doing your part. **Deuteronomy 28:1**, the Lord gives us two powerful keys to receive blessing from the tithe.

They include:

1. Hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God – this means to listen intelligently and attentively with the intention of obedience (when you hear the teaching on the tithe, listen expecting to tithe).
2. Observe and to do all his commandments – this means to carefully follow His commands to the smallest detail (when you tithe, be sure to do it carefully; that means your tithe is paid first, before all other responsibilities; you tithe on time; you bring God his full tithe and not a partial tithe).

When these two steps are followed He promises to set thee on high above all nations of the earth: The Lord was telling Israel that if they obeyed His commandments, He would make sure that there would be no nation on the earth blessed like them. What that means to you today is that you have a promise from God. If you obey His commandments by bringing your tithe into the storehouse, He is going to make sure that nobody around you will be as blessed as you. Blessings come in forms other than money; physical and mental health, peaceful mind, solid relationships, long life, and godly, successful children. Today, carefully follow the commandments of the Lord by bringing His tithe into the storehouse and watch Him set you above all those around you. That is a blessing plan you cannot refuse.

Today, return to God His tithe and watch Him fulfill His promise.

Lesson
25

Prosperity That Pursues

And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God. (Deuteronomy 28:2)

In this lesson, you will discover another awesome blessing the Lord releases in the life of tither. I call it

Prosperity That Pursues.

Most of the time, when you think of someone or something pursuing a person, it is from a negative point of view. Many of us have watched movies that feature an evil enemy pursuing a victim running for their life. Some of the enemies you have watched pursue innocent victims are evil men, wild animals, aliens from another planet, werewolves, and who can ever forget vampires like Count Dracula. Usually, every victim Count Dracula chased was overtaken. Once caught, that person's life was never the same. Once the Count bit that person, he became something he had never been before; a vampire.

That is Hollywood, but we are living in the real world. How would you like for the blessings of the Lord to pursue you and overtake you like Count Dracula pursues his victims on TV? Wouldn't it be awesome for prosperity and blessings to chase you down and change your life for the better? Just think of it, how you would feel if the blessings of the Lord chased you down and changed you into something you have never been in your life. Well, **Deuteronomy 28:2** is telling you that when you obey the voice of the Lord, which includes bringing to the storehouse His tithe, you will not have to pursue God's blessings; they will pursue and overtake you.

Deuteronomy 28:2 - And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God.

- I. **Come on** = *bow*; to abide; besiege; bring to pass; call a thing; run down; fetch.

What the scripture teaches is when you are a faithful tither, you will not have to look for the blessings of the Lord; they will look for you. It means the person who brings God

His tithe, the blessings of the Lord will search you out and run you down like a cheetah runs down a small antelope.

II. **Overtake** = *naw-sag*; to reach; ability; to be able; remove; wax rich.

This part of **Deuteronomy 28:2** means that the person who faithfully tithes, the blessings of the Lord are going to reach you. How will this happen? By the one who spoke the blessing over your life in the first place, God! The ability that is inherent in the blessings of the Lord is the power in the Word of God. Listen to what God says about His Word.

Isaiah 55:11 (NIV) - So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

Jeremiah 1:12 (NIV) - The Lord said to me, "You have seen correctly, for I am watching to see that my word is fulfilled."

The power behind the Word of God is God Himself. What that means is if you obey the voice of God and tithe, the Lord is going to make sure that the blessings of the covenant will run you down, fetch you, call you, and stay with you. You will not have to look for a blessing; blessings will look for you.

Today, return to God His tithe and watch God's blessings run you down and abide in your life.

Lesson
26

The Blessing Of Universal Prosperity

Blessest shalt thou be in the city, an^d blessest shalt thou be in the fiel^d.
(Deuteronomy 28:3)

*In this lesson, you will discover another blessing. I call it the **Blessing of Universal Prosperity**.*

In the sports of football, baseball, and basketball, one of the things every true sports fan understands is home court advantage. What that means is that whenever a team hosts an athletic event against an opponent in their city, state, or the place where they call home, they have a decided advantage and very seldom lose at that place. People play better at home! Maybe it is because at home, the support of family and friends makes it easier to play well. On the other hand, it could be that performing on a home court for basketball, football, or baseball is a lot easier because athletes are more familiar with the home court or field.

Sporting games of all kind, brings to mind that seemingly, referees, umpires, and other officials who enforces game rules, favor home teams, and bend the rules in their direction. In an article by Kevin Hassett, an economist and policy analyst for the American Enterprise Institute, points to apparent irregularities which he says could be evidence for NBA bias. Mr. Hassett states that in the NBA playoffs, the home team wins 74 percent of the time. That is a home court advantage; to win seven out of ten times you play.

In **Deuteronomy 28:3**, the Lord tells Israel, His covenant people, that they have a home court advantage of blessings wherever they go. He tells them if they are in the city, they will be blessed. If they are in the field, they will be blessed. What that literally means is they have a Blessing of Universal Prosperity. The word "blessed" in **Deuteronomy 28:3** comes from the Hebrew word, *baw-rak'* which means to kneel before God as an act of adoration. The reason you, as a covenant person, have the Blessing of Universal Prosperity is because the God of the Bible adores you. He loves you so much that He says wherever you go; He is giving you an advantage. That advantage means He prefers you before all others.

1. When it comes to meeting your needs, you are preferred.
2. When it comes to bringing prosperity into your life, you are preferred.
3. When you look for a job, you are preferred.
4. When it comes to the success of your business, you are preferred.
5. When it comes to raises and promotions on your job, you are preferred. The list goes on and on.

The key to walking in the Blessing of Universal Prosperity is found in **Deuteronomy 28:1**, And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth.

What that means to you is that in order to experience The Blessing of Universal Prosperity, you must obey the commandment of the Lord as it pertains to the tithe. This is one of God's conditional blessings. This kind of blessing is released when you meet the conditions of the promise. When you meet the conditions of the promise by returning to God His tithe, He promises to prosper you wherever you go. He prefers you before others who are not in covenant with Him. Therefore, when you are in competition with others to be blessed, you will be preferred or favored above everyone else. The Blessing of Universal Prosperity follows the tither no matter where he goes. If you happen to relocate to Alaska, Africa, Afghanistan, Albania, Australia, or Argentina, you will be preferred before all others because those who tithe are preferred.

Today, return to God His tithe and receive the Blessing of Universal Prosperity.

Lesson

27

The Blessing Of Fruitfulness

Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

(Deuteronomy 28:4)

*In this lesson, you will discover another blessing as we investigate Deuteronomy 28:4 which unfold a great promise of God. I call it the **Blessing of Fruitfulness**.*

- I. When Elohim, the Creator, made the first man Adam, He commanded him to be fruitful. In **Genesis 1:27-28**, God gives man the commandment to be fruitful:

Genesis 1:27-28 - So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. [28] And God blessed them, and God said unto them, **Be fruitful, and multiply**, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

The word fruitful means to bear fruit; cause to grow; make increase. The design of every man is to be productive. Whatever we involve ourselves in should grow, increase, or bear fruit. This is because God is a God of increase; here is proof:

1. God created 100 billion stars in our galaxy.
2. Scientist have estimated there are hundreds of billions of galaxies in the universe, and the number of galaxies will keep growing as our telescopes get better with the ability to look out and back farther in time.
3. There is an estimated six to ten million species of insects.
4. Scientists who study animal life called, zoologists, have recorded 20 thousand species of fish, 6 thousand species of reptiles, 9 thousand species of birds, 1 thousand species of amphibians, and 15 thousand species of mammals.

All of this is proof that God is a God of increase. You are made in the image and likeness of God. What that means is you are in God's image (you look like God – a spirit being). Not only that, you are in God's likeness (you are supposed to act like God – you are supposed to be fruitful).

Deuteronomy 28:4 is telling you that you are supposed to be fruitful in whatever you do just like God. Moses, the writer of the text uses two words to describe our fruitfulness (fruit and increase).

- II. Fruitfulness is the result of obedience. Notice the prerequisite for the fruitfulness of **Deuteronomy 28:4** found in **Deuteronomy 28:1-2**, And it shall come to pass, **if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee** this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God.

The Word is telling you as a covenant believer, if you want your life to be fruitful, you must obey the Word of the Lord as it pertains to your tithe. Your willingness to be obedient to the Word of God, by tithing, unlocks The Blessing of Fruitfulness in your life. When a believer is careful to obey the Word of the Lord and tithe, he will experience fruitfulness in every aspect of life including their finances, health, offspring (children), businesses, relationships, spiritual life, and the list goes on and on.

Today, return to the Lord His tithe and experience the fruitfulness you so greatly desire for you and your family.

Lesson
28

The Blessing Of Present And Future Provision

Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store. (Deuteronomy 28:5)

*In today's lesson, you will discover another awesome blessing the Lord releases in the life of the tither. I call it the **Blessing of Present and Future Provision**.*

Every believer wants the blessings of the Lord to encompass every area of their life. We want our present situation to be blessed and we expect our future to fall under the blessings of our heavenly Father as well. What is very interesting about this very fundamental desire is that the Lord wants the same thing for every person who names the name of Christ. Have you ever wondered why some people seem to experience blessings in just about every season of life, while others seem to always struggle? We all understand that according to **Ephesians 6:9{b}** (NIV), "there is no favoritism with him." God treats everyone the same. What He wants for one, He wants for all. He does not want blessings in the life of one individual and curses in the life of another. The God of the Bible wants everyone blessed in every season of life. This truth is clearly seen in **Deuteronomy 28:5**. In this scripture, Jehovah tells His covenant people that He wants to bless their basket and store. Let's explore what this means:

Five different Hebrew words translate "basket" in the Authorized Version:

1. A basket for holding bread (**Genesis 40:16**).
 2. A basket used for gathering grapes (**Jeremiah 6:9**).
 3. That in which the first fruits of the harvest were presented (**Deuteronomy 26:2, 4**).
 4. A basket resembling a birdcage, made of leaves used to carry fruits (**Amos 8:1-2**).
 5. A basket used for carrying figs (**Jeremiah 24:2**).
- I. These five meaningful concepts of the blessing of Israel's basket simply meant Jehovah's desire is that any and every vessel, in which they put their provisions for present use, would

always be full, and they should never be empty. In other words, Israel's present situation would always be blessed.

- II. Secondly, Jehovah tells Israel in Deuteronomy 28:5 their store would be blessed. The store for Israel was what remained; laid up in their barns, cellars, and storehouses for future use. It was also a symbol for the place where they stored their seed that represented all that was laid up for Israel's future use.

The Blessing of Present and Future Provision teach us, as believers, that God wants us to always have everything we need in our present lives, as well as our future. Everything we need to be blessed (have abundance), is provided by our heavenly father. This means, all that we have set aside to prepare for a successful future will prosper. In today's economy, the seeds you sow in the Kingdom of God will produce abundantly. The money you save will produce abundantly. The investments you make will produce abundantly. The Lord wants to bless your 401(k) IRA, stocks, and bonds. He wants to bless everything you have set aside to have a successful future. The way you can be assured that the Lord will bless your future investment is to obey the commandment of the Lord and return to Him His tithe. Blessings are always the result of obedience. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land (**Isaiah 1:19**).

The Lord wants to Bless Your Present and Your Future Provision. Secure this awesome promise in your life by being obedient and return to our covenant-keeping God what rightfully belong to Him, His tithe.

Today, give unto the Lord His tithe. If you are not a tither, start today to secure a blessed present and future.

Lesson
29

The Blessing Of Labor

Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out. (Deuteronomy 28:6)

In this lesson, you will discover another awesome blessing the Lord releases in the life of the tither. I call it the Blessing of Labor.

One of the great things about the United States of America is, for the most part, if you do the right things like go to school, get a good education, obtain gainful employment, and make wise choices; you're provided a great life. You will be able to purchase many of the things that make life meaningful, pleasant, and exciting. I wish everyone were experiencing the American dream. The truth of the matter is for many, the American dream has become a nightmare. According to the bureau of labor statistics, in June, 2011, the unemployment rate in the United States was at 9.2 percent. That means the number of unemployed persons in our country in June was about 14.1 million. I wonder how many of those people, who desperately need a job, are under the curse because they do not tithe.

Many of you are living the American dream because you have done the right things I mentioned before. You went to school, received a good education. Every day, when you come home from work, you walk into a situation where the blessings of the Lord are clearly seen. Your family is intact and everything you need to sustain life is provided for you. Nothing negative has happened to your family or your possessions while you were away from home. This is an example of The Blessing of Labor found in **Deuteronomy 28:6**.

Jehovah makes this promise to Israel in **Deuteronomy 28:6{a}**; Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in. What He was telling His covenant people is that when they returned home from work (when thou comest in); they would find that no evil happened to their family or their house while they were away. For the individual who was in covenant with Jehovah through the tithe, his family and possessions were protected from hurt, harm, and danger. I say that because I believe there are many people who worry about the welfare of their house and family when they are away at work. When an individual has that kind of concern, it is obviously difficult to perform at maximum capacity while you are at work. The Lord's promise to you is if you will return to Him His tithe, every time you come home you will find your family and possessions intact because He is your protection.

The second part of **Deuteronomy 28:6** is just as powerful, “blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out.” This aspect of The Blessing of Labor means that the Lord promised to make the way before them prosperous and all of their labor included divine blessings. What that means is it is the will of the Father to go before you whenever you are pursuing a situation involving employment. Secondly, it means that everything you do on the job will be blessed because the Lord promised to have a hand in it. The Lord is working with you. The strength, ideas, creativity, etc., you need to be successful on your job will be provided by the Lord because He is in covenant with you through the tithe. Therefore, while you are at work, you do not have to worry about your family or your possessions because God has your back. In addition, while you are at work, everything you put your hands to will be blessed because God is your co-worker. This awesome situation is the result of someone who is in covenant with God because he is a faithful tither.

Today, return to God His tithe and experience the Blessing of Labor.

Lesson

30

The Blessing Of Sure Victory

The Lord shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways. (Deuteronomy 28:7)

In this lesson, you will discover another awesome blessing the Lord releases in the life of the tither. I call it the Blessing of Sure Victory.

As a nation, Israel, God's chosen people, always had enemies. The number of enemies Israel had in the times of the Bible were numerous and powerful. Those who like Bible history will never forget the enemy nations like the Edomites, Ishmaelites, Amalekites, Moabites, Ammonites, Assyrians, and who could forget the dreaded Philistines, the nation that produced the giant Goliath.

These nations were among Israel's most feared enemies. They are major players in the Middle East today. These are descendants, from whom the Jihadists and the Islamic fundamentalists hail, making up what is known as the "Arab" or "Muslim world." Today, they inhabit the nations of Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Egypt, Libya, Sudan, Morocco, Tunisia, and the pseudo-nation of Palestine. I don't have to remind you that even today, people from these extremist groups want to see Israel totally destroyed and seen no more; that is the epitome of an enemy. Isn't it amazing that even though Israel is about the size of our fifth smallest state, New Jersey, they are still a viable and thriving nation? The reason is simply this: God fights the enemies of His people.

- I. Israel is God's covenant people according to the flesh. The church is God's covenant people according to the spirit. The Bible validates this fact in **Romans 2:28-29**, For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: [29] But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

- II. Many of you, just like Israel, have enemies. An enemy is one who feels hatred toward, intends injury to, or opposes the interests of another. Enemies have the tendency to

show up in some of the strangest places. Some of you have enemies on the job; next door; in your home; in the church; in the business community; at school, etc. Enemies can be as friends, bosses, teachers, neighbors, family members, current or ex-spouses, children, or sometimes fellow believers. The Lord tells us in **Deuteronomy 28:7** that no matter where or who your enemy is, the hatred, the opposition, or the injury they seek to send your way will not prosper. As a matter of fact, instead of those things causing you to flee because of fear, the Lord will cause them to flee from you seven ways. **Deuteronomy 28:7 (The Message)**, God will defeat your enemies who attack you. They'll come at you on one road and run away on seven roads. The promise Jehovah gives to His people, who are in covenant with Him, is that they do not have to worry about their enemies. He is telling you if your enemies come against you one way, even in the firmest and most united manner, He will cause them to flee seven ways. They shall be utterly broken, confounded, and finally sent away completely defeated. Seven is the number of completion. When the Lord gets through with them, they will never come against you again. This promise is a result of the covenant God makes with the believer because he tithes. What the Lord is saying, "If you help Me defeat My enemies like disease, poverty, ignorance, and sin; by returning to Me My tithe, I will in turn defeat your enemies. It doesn't matter how strong your enemies are, God can send them away seven ways, never to seek your harm again.

Today, return to God His tithe and experience the Blessing of Sure Victory.

Lesson

31

The Commanded Blessing

The Lord shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee. (Deuteronomy 28:8)

In this lesson, you will discover another awesome blessing for those who tithe. I call it the Commanded Blessing.

Everybody, for the most part, wants to be blessed. When an individual or a family is blessed, they experience the kind of lifestyle that speaks of prosperity, health, peace, and joy. This is why you work hard, save, invest your money, and look for opportunities to secure a life of happiness. Isn't it amazing that after some people do all these things, the blessings of God seems to elude them? They do all the right things, as far as they know, but divine prosperity and blessings seem to be only a myth.

For people like this, I believe the difference between having a life blessed on every side and constantly struggling to see a life of blessings is the inclusion of divine assistance. Sometimes, in order to get over the preverbal "hump" one small adjustment is needed. As far as divine blessings are concerned, there is one way to ensure that will be a part of your life; it is found in **Deuteronomy 28:8**. The Lord shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee. In this scripture, the creator tells us if certain conditions are met, He will command the blessing upon us. The word command means to appoint, give a charge, send to a messenger, or set in order. For the individuals who are in covenant with the Lord, He promises to appoint a blessing. When the Lord gives a blessing an appointment, the blessing will keep the appointment and find you. When God says that He will command the blessing, He is saying He will send a messenger to bring the blessing to you. The messengers that He will use to bring the blessing to you are God's mighty angels on assignment. **Psalms 103:20**, Bless the Lord, ye his angels that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word. Right now, angels are on assignment to bring blessings to the life of those who are in covenant with God through the tithe.

The wording in **Deuteronomy 28:8** is very important. Moses who wrote Deuteronomy says, "The Lord shall command the blessing upon thee." He did not say a blessing. He said, "the blessing." "The blessing" means there is a specific blessing in the scripture the Lord promises to appoint or send a messenger to bring to you. The blessing is the same blessing that God first released in the life of His covenant people through Abraham. **Genesis 12:1-2**, Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: The blessing is the greatest blessing mankind has ever experienced. This is the blessing Jehovah wanted to release in the life of all His covenant people. This blessing is so potent that not only will the people who are recipients of the blessing be blessed, but this blessing blesses those who are around them. The key to walking in this tremendous blessing is obedience.

Isaiah 1:19, If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: For those of you who obey the commandment of the Lord and return to Him His tithe (**Malachi 3:10**), He will command the blessing of Abraham upon you. You will not have to struggle to find the blessing, the blessing will find you. It will literally hunt you down and find you, with prosperity, health, peace, joy, etc.

Today, return to God His tithe and receive the Commanded Blessing.

Lesson

32

The Blessing Of The Blessed Hand

The Lord shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee. (Deuteronomy 28:8{b})

In this lesson, you will discover another awesome blessing for those who tithe. I call it the Blessing of the Blessed Hand.

In professional wrestling, athletes compete at a very high level, week after week. They were experts at building plots for upcoming wrestling matches by sparring with each other over a public microphone. In the decade of the Nineties, the wrestling superstars were Huck Hogan, Randy Macho Man Savage, The Undertaker, Kane, Booker T, and who could forget the Ultimate Warrior, an amazing physical specimen, half man and half-animal.

The thing that made professional wrestling so interesting was that every match was carefully scripted down to the minutest detail. The former owner of the World Wrestlers Federation, Vince McMahon, knew who would win every match because the winner was selected long before the match took place. Think about it, wouldn't it be great if you, like Vince McMahon, knew that everything you put your hand to would turn out like you wanted it to. If your life was orchestrated like that, you would be successful in every venture you got involved in.

- I. In **Deuteronomy 28:8{a}**, Jehovah promises His covenant people, "The Lord shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto." This is a most amazing promise the Lord makes to those He blesses. He literally makes a promise to those in covenant with Him through the tithe, that whatever they attempt to do, according to His purpose, will be successful. Success is accomplishing what was proposed. Just think about this for a minute, everything you attempt to do will turn out just as you planned. Not only that, but the New Testament gives us further insight into how God deals with His covenant people in these kinds of situations. **Ephe-**

sians 3:20, Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us. **Ephesians 3:20 (NLT)**, God can do anything, you know, far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! God is a God who exceeds expectations. Not only will He meet your expectations, but His blessings will go far beyond anything you can imagine.

II. **Deuteronomy 28:8{a}(NLT)**, The Lord will guarantee a blessing on everything you do. The key word here is guarantee; something that gives a certainty of outcome. For those of you who are in covenant with God through the tithe, you already know the outcome of everything you attempt. Like the professional wrestlers, you already know the outcome of everything you put your hands to. From this day forward, every tither should expect:

1. Every business deal to exceed all expectations
2. Every project to produce greater than you anticipated
3. Every invention to take the world by storm
4. Every company you start to be a success
5. Every investment you make to bring you incredible returns
6. Every book you write to be a best seller
7. Every idea you have to bring forth prosperity

This is what God promises in the lives of those who tithe.

Today, guarantee your success by returning to God His tithe. This is an offer you cannot refuse.

Lesson
33

The Blessing Of Being Special

The Lord shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, and walk in his ways. (Deuteronomy 28:9)

In this lesson, I want to introduce another tremendous blessing for the tither found in Deuteronomy 28:9.

*I call it the **Blessing of Being Special**.*

Just about everyone knows what it feels like to be considered special to someone else. Husbands make sure they remember important days like wedding anniversaries, birthdays, Valentine's Day, and Christmas in order to purchase gifts for their wives. This is one of the major ways a man makes his wife feel like she is special to him. Parents do the same thing for their children. They remember birthdays, purchase lots of toys on Christmas, and plan vacations just for their children. These acts of kindness and love help the recipient feel like they have great worth to others.

- I. In **Deuteronomy 28:9**, Jehovah tells Israel that He wants to make them His special people. Instead of using the word special, He uses the word holy. Listen to the promise He makes to Israel; **Deuteronomy 28:9{a}**, The Lord shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee. The word holy means dedicated or devoted exclusively to a single use; purpose, or person; having worth or merit or value; being honorable or admirable; or worthy of respect. Jehovah tells Israel in **Deuteronomy 28:9** that He wants them to be His special people, but there are some conditions that must be met if that is to take place, "if thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, and walk in his ways." **Deuteronomy 28:9{b}** is the solemn condition for Israel to be God's special people. They had to (1) keep the commandments of the Lord thy God and (2) walk in His ways. Keeping the commandments of the Lord included returning to Jehovah His tithe. Tithers are God's special people.

What are the benefits of being God's special people? **Deuteronomy 7:6; 13-15**, For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth. **Deuteronomy 7:13-15**, And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: he will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy

land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he swore unto thy fathers to give thee. [14] Thou shalt be blessed above all people: there shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle. [15] And the Lord will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all them, that hate thee.

The benefits of being God's special people are many. In **Deuteronomy 7**, the Lord is telling Israel that this is what He will do for His special people:

1. Love them
2. Cause them to be fruitful
3. Bless their children
4. Bless them in their occupations
5. Bless their future
6. Cure them of all bareness
7. Cure them of all sickness

All these benefits are for God's special people through the tithe. Think about it for a minute, when someone is special to you, your desire is to do for them what you would not do for anyone else. Just as if a husband gives a special gift to his wife, God wants to do special things for His special people because they tithe.

Today, return to God His tithe and become one of God's special people.

Lesson

34

The Blessing Of Being Renowned

An^s all people of the earth shall see that thou art calle^d by the name of the Lor^s; an^s they shall be afraid^s of thee. (Deuteronomy 28:10)

In this lesson, you will discover another amazing promise of God for those who tithe. I call it the Blessing of Being Renowned.

All around the world, there are some people, who are famous; just the mention of their first name brings to light who you are talking about. When you hear the names:

1. Oprah – you know that someone is referring to Oprah Winfrey.
2. Michael – you know that someone is referring to Michael Jordan or Michael Jackson.
3. Barak – you know that someone is referring to President Barak Obama.
4. Magic – you know that someone is referring to Magic Johnson.
5. LeBron – you know that someone is referring to LeBron James.

These people carved out a niche in society that caused them to be renowned; just calling their first name causes you to recognize who they are. Wouldn't it be a blessing for you to have that kind of notoriety? Well, in **Deuteronomy 28:10**, Jehovah tells His covenant people that all the people of the earth shall know them, not by their name, but by His name. In **Deuteronomy 28:10[a]** (NIV), the Word says, "All the peoples on Earth will see you living under the Name of God." That means to you and me that as God's special people, those who notice you will see you so blessed that they will have to attribute it to the power of God. They will know that you are in truth, His people and children, "A most excellent and glorious people; under the peculiar care and countenance of the great God". Here's what the Bible says about the blessing of being called by His name:

1. **2 Chronicles 7:14** - If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.
2. **Isaiah 43:7** - Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.

There is a tremendous blessing being called by the name of the Lord. God's name carries with it all the attributes or perfections of who He is. When you are called by the name of the Lord, everything that God is pertains to you. God's power, His might, His riches, His wisdom, and His knowledge, etc., pertains to you. What happens when people are known for the attributes of God, which is a product of this name? People will fear those kinds of people. **Deuteronomy 28:10**, And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the Lord; and they shall be afraid of thee. When people start seeing blessings of the Lord on your life, they will know that it is because you are called by the name of the Lord and will have great respect for you.

Deuteronomy 28:10 (The Message), All the peoples on Earth will see you living under the Name of God and hold you in respectful awe. This is a result of those who are in covenant with God through the tithe. God wants to make you renowned because of His name. He wants all people to know that you are called by the name of the Lord.

Today, return to God His tithe and be a benefactor of the Blessing of Being Renowned.

Lesson

35

The Blessing Of Plenty

And the Lord shall make thee plenteous in ^{Goods} goods, in the fruit of thy ^{body} body,
and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land
which the ^{Lord} Lord sware unto thy fathers to give thee.

(Deuteronomy 28:11)

*In this lesson, you will discover another promise of God for those who tithe. I call it the **Blessing of Plenty**.*

Citizens of the United States of America are some of the most blessed people in the world. The average citizen has his basic needs met, which include food, shelter, and clothing. In other nations, like Africa, Philippines, and Mexico, a large percentage of people do not have the necessities of life; this is why your tithe is so important. It allows churches and ministries to bring relief to underprivileged individuals. Though a large portion of people in the U.S. have basic things to sustain life, capitalism, and our economic system; it is designed to cause most Americans to live an average life and not the life of abundance, overflow, and prosperity. This is why most Americans are now and always will be a part of the middle class. Middle class living is designed to support the poor and the rich, while never allowing you to live the abundant life our fathers like Abraham, David, and Solomon lived. There are many scriptures to validate the LORD's desire for you to prosper, increase, and have plenty. The word plenty, in **Deuteronomy 28:11** means to exceed; excel; cause to abound; too much; reserve; and residue.

1. **Psalm 1:3** - And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.
2. **Psalm 35:27** - Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the Lord be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant.
3. **2 Chronicles 20:20{b}** - Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.
4. **3 John 1:2** - Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

Deuteronomy 7:11-13 - Thou shalt therefore keep the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which I command thee this day, to do them. [12] Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that the Lord thy God shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he sware unto thy fathers: [13] And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: he will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he sware unto thy fathers to give thee.

The key to walking in this level of increase and plenty is found in **Deuteronomy 7:11{a}**, Thou shalt therefore keep the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which I command thee this day, to them. Keeping, guarding, and doing the commandments of the Lord include bringing to him His tithe. **Malachi 3:10{a}**, Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house. This is not a suggestion, it is a commandment. When you keep the commandment of the Lord and bring to Him His tithe, the blessing of **Deuteronomy 28:11** kicks in: And the Lord shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers to give thee.

Today, return to God His tithe and experience the Blessing of Plenty.

Lesson
36

The Blessing Of An Open Heaven

The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven.
(Deuteronomy 28:12{a})

In this lesson, you will discover another powerful principle found in Deuteronomy 28:12. I call it the Blessing of An Open Heaven.

For the most part everybody wants to go to heaven. There are very few people, if any, who wants to go to hell. The primary reason this is that everything we have heard about heaven is good. Heaven is a place where there is no dying, no crying, and no sorrow. Heaven is a place where every need is met and there is no lack. If there is a place in the universe where the blessings of the Lord are plentiful, that place is heaven. Heaven is the place where the concept of lack does not exist. Everyone in heaven is so blessed; it is difficult to fully describe or understand the bountiful supply of it. The scripture helps us understand this concept in **1 Corinthians 2:9**, But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if it were possible to experience the tremendous blessings of heaven on earth? Well in **Deuteronomy 28:12**, the Lord tells us this is exactly what He wants to do. These are the words of the Lord:

1. The Lord shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven, **Deuteronomy 28:12{a}**.
2. God will throw open the doors of his sky vaults, **Deuteronomy 28:12{a}** (**The Message**).
2. The Lord will open the heavens. That is where he stores his riches, **Deuteronomy 28:12{a}** (**NIV**).
3. The Lord will open for you His good storehouse, the heavens, **Deuteronomy 28:12{a}** (**NLV**).
4. The Lord will open the storehouses of the skies, **Deuteronomy 28:12{a}** (**CEV**).

Every one of these translations validate that it is the will of God to open the storehouse of heaven and all that it contains to send it to His people on earth. I call this tremendous revelation, The Blessing of An Open Heaven. When the heavens over you are open, every blessing you need in your life is provided without lack and the greatest blessings life has to offer is yours. How do you cause the heavens to open? Let's go back to the scripture:

- I. **Malachi 3:10** - Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

According to **Malachi 3:10**, the key to causing the heaven over your head to open, is to bring the entire tithe into the storehouse or the church. When you bring God His tithe, you cause Him to open the treasures of heaven over you. "I will bless you beyond your wildest imagination." In fact, "I will bless you in ways you can't conceive in your mind." Your tithe is the key that opens the windows of heaven. If you do not use the key, the windows will not open. However, if you use the key that God gave you, the windows over your head will open and will stay open; every blessing imaginable is yours: money, jobs, promotions, businesses, health, tremendous relationships, cars, homes, and the list goes on and on.

Today, bring God His tithe and bring your entire family under God's open Heaven.

Lesson

37

The Four-Fold Result Of An Open Heaven

The Lord shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.

(Deuteronomy 28:12)

In this lesson, you will discover the second part of Deuteronomy 28:12. I call it the Four-Fold Result of an Open Heaven.

Numbers in the Bible are very significant because in the divine scheme of things, God always used numbers to express His will in the realm of time. **Genesis 1:5**, And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. In addition, the evening and the morning were the first day. In this scripture, God calls the evening and the morning the first day or day number one. Numbers have a symbolic meaning.

1. **One** – the number of God or unity - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord (**Deuteronomy 6:4**).
2. **Two** – the number of agreement, and truth - It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true (**John 8:17**).
3. **Three** – the number of divinity - For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one (**1 John 5:7**).
4. **Four** – the number of natural order - And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other (**Matthew 24:31**).
5. **Five** – the number of grace and redemption - And the evening and the morning were the fifth day. And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so. The animals did not work. God did the work for them. He fed them, clothed them, protected them, and watched over them. All this was God's grace (**Genesis 1:23-24**).

6. **Six** – the number of man - Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six (**Revelation 13:18**).
7. **Seven** – the number of spiritual completion or perfection - And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made (**Genesis 2:2**).
8. **Eight** – the number of new beginnings -Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water (**1 Peter 3:20**).

The number four represents natural order. In **Deuteronomy 28:12{b}**, the Lord shows us how he brings order to the life of a believer who is in covenant with him through the tithe. He does this by releasing four blessings:

1. To give the rain unto thy land in his season – Rain is a symbol of blessing and abundance.
2. To bless all the work of thine hand – Whatever your hands do shall prosper.
3. Thou shalt lend unto many nations – Your prosperity will be so great that your overflow will cause you to lend to others.
4. Thou shalt not borrow – Everything you need will be provided; you will be debt free.

This four-fold blessing is a result of the individual who is in covenant with the Lord through the tithe. It brings divine order to your life because God is a God of order. Any believer, who does not tithe, has finances that are out of order. Returning to God His tithe is the first step in the financial scheme of things that brings order to your life. When you bring order to your finances, by returning to God His tithe, He in turn will release the four-fold result of an open heaven in your life.

Today, return to God His tithe and bring order to your life.

Lesson
38

The Blessing Of Headship

An^s the Lor^s shall make thee the hea^s, an^s not the tail; an^s thou shalt be above only, an^s thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the Lord thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe an^s to ^so them. (Deuteronomy 28:13)

*In this lesson, you will discover another blessing and use Deuteronomy 28:13 as your key scripture. I call it the **Blessing of Headship**.*

When God created man in the beginning, He created him to have dominion in the earth. In **Genesis 1:26**, this is what Elohim, the Creator said when He made man, "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." The word "dominion" means to tread down; subjugate; prevail against; reign; bear or make rule; take over. Man was created not to be under anything on planet earth. He was made to be over all things the Lord made in creation. When man fell in the Garden of Eden, he lost this dominion and became dominated by things like sickness, disease, poverty, death, fear, etc.

What Adam lost by falling in the Garden of Eden, JESUS regained in the resurrection. This is how a redeemed man, who is in financial covenant with God through the tithe, can now have the dominion he was created to have. What does it mean to be the head and not the tail? This means that God gives you dominion in every environment you find yourself in. You are not below anyone in the marketplace, scholastic environment, or any other place you find yourself in. The head signify rulers and governors. It also signifies those who are honorable and in high esteem. For you who are obedient to the commandments of God, which includes bringing to the storehouse the tithe, God promises to bless above all others.

The word head in this text comes from the Hebrew word, "*roshe*," which means captain; chiefest; first; forefront; highest part; principal; ruler; top. What this suggests to you, as a believer, is that this is the will of God. You should not be behind anyone in any area of your life. You are the head! Your head is the primary representation of who you are when it is compared to the other parts of your body. When someone thinks of you, they see your head first. When God says He will make you the head,

He is saying that when people, who don't know God, want to know the nature or character of God, all they have to do is look at you whom He made the head. Your life should be a reflection of the goodness, power, greatness, and blessings of God. This is what it means to be the head.

Today, return to God His tithe and allow Him to make you the head and not the tail.

Lesson

39

The Blessing of Unlimited Success

An^e the Lor^e shall make thee the hea^e, an^e not the tail; an^e thou shalt be above only, an^e thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the Lord thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe an^e to ^eo them. (Deuteronomy 28:13)

*In this lesson, you will discover another blessing from Deuteronomy 28:13{b}, our key scripture. I call it the **Blessing of Unlimited Success**.*

What would you be willing to do or give if you knew there was a way for you to never fail at anything again? How much is a deal like that worth; \$1,000; \$10,000; or \$100,000? I am asking, how much would you pay for guaranteed success in every area of your life? In my estimation, there is only one who can make a promise of success in all areas of your life 100 percent of the time. That is what the Blessing of Unlimited Success is all about. Jehovah made Israel His covenant people a promise they could not refuse, “**and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; Deuteronomy 28:13{b}.**” “Above” in the Greek means upper part, overhead, from the top, exceedingly forward, very high, over, up. The word “only” means exclusively, without more, nothing else. When the Lord tells His covenant people that they would be above only, He is saying to them that in every area of their lives, He will not allow anything to come to them, but success. There are no other options, no other plans, no other possible outcomes, but being on top. The following is the same scripture from six versions of the Bible.

1. **Deuteronomy 28:13{b} (GNT)** - you will always prosper and never fail if you obey faithfully all his commands that I am giving you today.
2. **Deuteronomy 28:13{b} (NASB)** - and you only will be above, and you will not be underneath, if you listen to the commandments of the Lord your God, which I charge you today, to observe them carefully.
3. **Deuteronomy 28:13{b} (NIRV)** - Pay attention to his commands that I'm giving you today. Be careful to follow them. Then you will always be on top. You will never be

on the bottom.

4. **Deuteronomy 28:13{b} (CEV)** - Israel will be wealthy and powerful, not poor and weak. [14] But you must not reject any of his laws and teachings or worship other gods.
5. **Deuteronomy 28:13{b} (ESVA)** - and you shall only go up and not down, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you today, being careful to do them.
6. **Deuteronomy 28:13{b} (HCSB)** you will only move upward and never downward if you listen to the Lord your God's commands I am giving you today and are careful to follow [them].

The key for Israel obtaining this tremendous promise of success is found in the last clause of **Deuteronomy 28:13**, “if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the Lord thy God.” The word hearken means to hear intelligently with the intention of obedience. In order to always be on top and never on the bottom, you need to hear what God commands with the intention of obeying Him. Returning to God His tithe is included in this command. For those of you who will listen and obey **Malachi 3:10** and bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, the Lord promises that He will never let you fail. He promises that you will always be on top and experience tremendous success; this includes in business, education, occupation, and any other area of your life.

Today, bring all the tithe into the storehouse and watch the Lord bring you into the Blessing of Unlimited Success.

Lesson

40

Tithing By Faith

Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. (Hebrews 10:38)

In this lesson, you will discover that tithing is not based upon what you see, but what you cannot see. It's from the Word of the Lord found in Hebrews 11:1. I call it Tithing by Faith.

Faith is the most important subject a believer can study and understand in the Bible after he is saved. There are many scriptures to prove this concept:

1. **Ephesians 2:8** - For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:
2. **1 Peter 1:5** - Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
3. **Romans 14:23** - And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.
4. **2 Corinthians 5:7** - For we walk by faith, not by sight.
5. **Hebrews 6:12** - That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

Hebrews 10:38{a}, the Word says, "Now the just shall live by faith." Here are other versions of that scripture:

1. **Hebrews 10:38 (NIRV)** -The one who is in the right will live by faith.
2. **Hebrews 10:38 (NLV)** - For the one right with God lives by faith.

In order to be in right standing with God, you must do it by faith. Faith is simply acting on the Word of God. When you tithe, you are acting on the Word of God found in **Malachi 3:10**, Bring ye all the

tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. When you act on the Word, you are living by faith and are in right standing with God.

The problem that most people have with Tithing by Faith is that faith is not what you see.

Hebrews 11:1, Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. If you can see it, it is not faith. Faith is acting even though you do not see it. What that means to you in relationship to Tithing by Faith is you tithe even though you cannot see how you can tithe. You are not tithing by what you see; you are Tithing by Faith based on what the Word says, not based on your circumstances around you. You tithe when it seems more logical to use God's tithe to pay your bills, buy clothes, go on vacations, or other things people use God's tithe for. You might ask, "Why does it seem so hard to tithe?" The reason it seems so hard to tithe is because your faith is not as pure as the Lord wants it to be. Faith is not pure faith until it is tested. **1 Peter 1:7**, That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: When you pass the test of tithing, your pure faith will not only please God, but it will also bring the promises of God to pass in your life. **Hebrews 6:12**, That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

Today, release your faith, return to GOD His tithe and watch the promises of GOD flow in your life.

Lesson

41

Tithing By Faith Supernaturally (Part I)

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (Hebrews 11:1)

In this lesson, you will discover principles that deal with Tithing by Faith Supernaturally.

Christianity is 100 percent supernatural. Everything about it is based on an element that goes far beyond human understanding and reasoning. Think about it for a moment, the father of our faith, Abraham, lived a life of faith and received the promise of a son when he was 100 years old. Now that's supernatural! JESUS Christ, the unique son of God was born supernaturally. He lived a life free from sin and performed so many miracles. If books were written about them the world couldn't contain the volumes of books (St. John 21:25). The birth, life, death, and resurrection of JESUS are 100 percent supernatural.

The thing that makes everything associated with God-like creation; Abraham, JESUS, etc., is faith supernatural. Everything connected with God has to connect by faith. The reason this is true is because God is a faith God. The only way you can please God is by faith.

- I. **Hebrews 11:6** - But without faith it is impossible to please him.

Faith brings the supernatural into your life. Faith is 100 percent supernatural. Faith is the thing that God uses to connect anyone to the supernatural aspect of how He does things. Whenever you want the supernatural to happen in your life, you must release your faith. If you need a supernatural miracle of healing, you must release your faith. If you want a supernatural miracle to turn your financial situation around, you must release your faith. Faith is released by actions because faith without actions is useless.

- II. **James 2:20 (GNT)** - You fool! Do you want to be shown that faith without actions is useless?

If you need a turn-a-round in your finances and every attempt you have tried has failed,

you need to shift into the supernatural realm of faith. Remember, faith is 100 percent supernatural. The thing that makes faith supernatural is because it comes out of God who is 100 percent supernatural. Faith is how God allows you to connect with Him.

III. **Hebrews 11:6{b}** - for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Tithing by faith connects you to the supernatural realm where there are no impossibilities. When you tithe, you access the invisible or the supernatural realm.

Malachi 3:10, Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Today, release your faith supernaturally, return to God His tithe and watch the promises of God flow in your life.

Lesson

42

Tithing By Faith Supernaturally (Part II)

By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son. (Hebrews 11:17)

Tithing by Faith Supernaturally is the biblical principle I introduced to you in Lesson 41. Tithing is the act God has chosen to supernaturally open you the windows of heaven and change your financial situation around. The key is that you must do it by faith. Tithing is a supernatural act that produces supernatural results.

In this lesson, I want to introduce you to more powerful principles that deal with Tithing by Faith Supernaturally.

Faith always involves a sacrifice. Faith never works without giving something. Whenever you decide to live by faith, it will always require you to release to God something of value in order to receive something from God of greater value. Your faith will always require you to bring to God something that brings value, happiness, or comfort to you. Your faith comes into play because you believe that whatever you release to God, no matter how priceless it might seem, will bring you something of greater value, happiness, or comfort in return. You have to believe that, no matter how precious the thing is the Lord requires you to release.

Abraham, the father of faith, became a model for all of us who will tithe by faith. He received the promise of God after his faith was tested. The Lord tested Abraham's faith in order to qualify him for a tremendous harvest of being the father of many nations. Jehovah, the covenant-keeping God, told him to sacrifice or kill the son he believed would be the start of him being the father of many nations. Can you imagine how Abraham felt when he was told by God to kill the son he prayed for and awaited many years? Remember, faith will always require you to release to God something of value in order to receive something from God of greater value in return. Abraham had to release to God his promised son in order to become the father of many sons.

I am sure it was very difficult for Abraham to follow the Word from God and release that thing he was sure he needed to bring him value, happiness, and comfort. This is where Abraham's faith kicked in. He followed the Word of God even though it seemed like he was suffering a great loss. The loss of Abraham's son, Isaac, caused him to lose the hope of receiving the promise God made him of becoming a great nation. Think about this, Isaac was Abraham's first son by his wife Sarah. Isaac was a type of Abraham's first fruit. Isaac represents the tithe of Abraham's future. Remember, the tithe is your first fruit (Proverbs 3:9-10), Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine. When Abraham released Isaac to the Lord, by making up his mind to sacrifice him, an amazing thing happened. God started talking to Abraham about how he planned to participate in bringing his promise to pass. God told Abraham about the ram in the bush and told him not to sacrifice Isaac because the ram in the bush was the sacrifice instead of Isaac. I believe the ram was in the bush all the time, but God didn't open Abraham's eyes to see it until Abraham decided to release Isaac or his tithe. Many of you have blessings the Lord already has planned to release into your life. You will see these blessings after you release to God the tithe.

In this story we discovered a number of important principles about Tithing by Faith Supernaturally:

1. Tithing by faith will always require a sacrifice.
2. Whenever you decide to tithe by faith, it will always require you to release to God something of value in order to receive something from God of greater value.
3. Your faith will always require you to bring to God something that brings value, happiness, or comfort.
4. Many of you have blessings the Lord already has planned to release into your life that you cannot see.
5. You will see these blessings only after you release to God the tithe.

Today, release to God His tithe and watch the supernatural promises of God manifest in your life.

Lesson

43

Tithing On The Promise

By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called. (Hebrews 11:17-18)

In this lesson, you will discover another principle of tithing. I call it Tithing on the Promise.

One of the greatest feelings of satisfaction is when the promise the Lord made you finally comes to fruition. The time you had to wait, especially if the waiting period was long, caused you to experience very negative emotions. This is expressed in **Proverbs 13:12 (CEB)**, Not getting what you want can make you feel sick, but a wish that comes true is a life-giving tree. For most, the long wait for promises to be fulfilled sometimes has a very negative effect on people. Can you imagine what it would be like to receive a miracle blessing after waiting many years, only to have that same blessing taken away from you in one day? It's like having received a bonus from your job, only to find out that the bonus was really not for you, but was for someone else. Maybe the accounting office made a mistake and misspelled your last name and instead of the bonus going to you Jim Brown, it should have gone to Tim Brown. Giving back the bonus would cause you to be sad. This is exactly what happened to Abraham. After waiting 25 years to receive the promise of a son, Abraham had his miracle, Isaac. After about 17 years of age, Jehovah tells Abraham to give Isaac back or kill him. Can you imagine what kind of emotions Abraham had to experience when God told him to give back the promise he waited so long to receive? Many of you are in the same boat, you have prayed for financial increase in your life and after a number of months or years; finances have finally started to pour in. Now that you have money, the Lord requires you to take some of your blessing and give it back to Him by tithing.

One of the reasons some people have problems tithing is because they feel they shouldn't have to give the church money that they have struggled so long to receive. I call this Tithing on the Promise. The thing to consider is that if it wasn't for the goodness of God, you wouldn't have received the promise in the first place. Tithing on the Promise should be something you do without hesitation.

Secondly, the scripture says about Abraham, when he gave his promised son, Isaac, back to

Jehovah as a tithe, **Hebrews 11:19{a}**, "Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead..." What made it easy for Abraham to give Jehovah back Isaac, his promise, was Abraham knew that following the commandment of God meant he couldn't lose. He thought if he killed Isaac, as Jehovah ordered him to do, Jehovah would raise Isaac from the dead. Tithing on the promise is a win-win situation. You cannot lose when you follow the commandment of God. Tithing on the Promise always pay dividends. You have to know when you tithe; God releases the supernatural in your life. Abraham knew if he followed the commandment of God and killed Isaac, God would do something supernatural with his sacrifice and raise Isaac from the dead. You have to do the same thing. When you Tithe on the Promise, God will cause your tithe to experience the supernatural and bring even greater blessings in your life.

Today, Tithe on the Promise and watch what God does to release supernatural blessings in your life.

Lesson

44

Tithing Frees You From The World's Economic System

And it shall be, when thou art come in unto the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee for an inheritance, and possess it, and weltest therein; That thou shalt take of the first of all the fruit of the earth, which thou shalt bring of thy land that the Lord thy God giveth thee, and shalt put it in a basket, and shalt go unto the place which the Lord thy God shall choose to place his name there. And thou shalt go unto the priest that shall be in those days, and say unto him, I profess this day unto the Lord thy God, that I am come unto the country which the Lord swore unto our fathers for to give us. And the priest shall take the basket out of thine hand, and set it down before the altar of the Lord thy God. And thou shalt speak and say before the Lord thy God, A Syrian ready to perish was my father, and he went down into Egypt, and sojourned there with a few, and became there a nation, great, mighty, and populous: And the Egyptians evil entreated us, and afflicted us, and laid upon us hard bondage: And when we cried unto the Lord God of our fathers, the Lord heard our voice, and looked on our affliction, and our labour, and our oppression: And the Lord brought us forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand, and with an outstretched arm, and with great terribleness, and with signs, and with wonders: And he hath brought us into this place, and hath given us this land, even a land that floweth with milk and honey. And now, behold, I have brought the firstfruits of the land, which thou, O LORD, hast given me. And thou shalt set it before the LORD thy God, and worship before the LORD thy God. (Deuteronomy 26:1-10)

In this lesson, you will discover how Tithing Frees You From the World's Economic System.

One of the most interesting scriptures in the Bible is found in **2 Corinthians 4:3-4**, "If our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world (system) hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." What the scripture reveals is that Satan, the god of this world, keeps people in bondage of his kingdom (the world) by mental blindness. Satan controls people through ignorance of the word by keeping them bound to the curse in one way or another. One major result

of the curse is poverty. **Deuteronomy 28:38-40 (CEV)**, You will plant a lot of seed, but gather a small harvest because locusts will eat your crops. You will plant vineyards and work hard at taking care of them, but you won't gather any grapes, much less get any wine, and the vines themselves will be eaten by worms. Even if your olive trees grow everywhere in your country, the olives will fall off before they are ready and there won't be enough olive oil for combing your hair.

The Lord never designed man to depend on the system of the world. Man was designed to live in the Kingdom of God. **Matthew 6:33 (NLT)**, Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. This means you need to seek how the Kingdom of God works. The economy of the Kingdom of God is funded by tithes and offerings. Once you start operating in this principle, you are free from the bondage of the world's system. Here are some of the benefits of Kingdom living:

1. The Kingdom of God never experiences a recession (The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, **Haggai. 2:8**)
2. The Kingdom of God has unlimited resources (The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof, **Psalms 24:1**)
3. The unlimited resources of the Kingdom of God are your inheritance (...all I have is thine, **Luke 15:31**)
4. The Kingdom of God is here now and not tomorrow (**Mark 4:16**, the Kingdom of God is at hand)

Tithing frees you from the World Economic System and releases you into the economy of the Kingdom of God where unlimited blessings, opportunities, resources, and prosperity makes life easier to navigate. Your commitment to consistently tithe, places you in an economic system that cannot fail.

Today, bring God's tithe into His storehouse and live the abundant life you were designed to live in God's Kingdom.

Lesson
45

Tithing Helps You Minister To The Needs Of The Poor

*When thou hast made an *en* of tithing all the tithes of thine increase the third year, which is the year of tithing, and hast given it unto the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, that they may eat within thy gates, an *en* be filled. (Deuteronomy 26:12)*

In this lesson, I want to deal with the tithe from a different perspective. You will discover how
Tithing Helps You Minister to the Needs of the Poor.

Jesus made a statement in **St. Mark 14:7 (NIV)**, The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. Jesus is telling his disciples that there will always be many opportunities to minister to the needs of poor people because they will always be a major part of society on earth. This was true yesterday, today, and will be tomorrow. Here are some statistics of world poverty in 2011:

1. At least 80 percent of humanity lives on less than \$10 per day.
2. According to United Children's Emergency Fund, UNICEF, 22 thousand children die each day due to poverty. Around 27-28 percent of all children in developing countries are estimated to be underweight or stunted. The two regions that account for the bulk of the deficit are South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.
3. There are 2.2 billion children in the world; 1 billion live in poverty.
4. Nearly a billion people entered the 21st century unable to read a book or sign their names.
5. Infectious diseases continue to blight the lives of the poor across the world. An estimated 40 million people are living with HIV/AIDS, with 3 million deaths in 2004. Every year there are 350–500 million cases of malaria, with 1 million fatalities: Africa accounts for 90 percent of malarial deaths and African children account for over 80

percent of malaria victims worldwide.

6. For the 1.9 billion children from the developing world, there are:
 - a. 640 million without adequate shelter (1 in 3)
 - b. 400 million with no access to safe water (1 in 5)
 - c. 270 million with no access to health services (1 in 7)
 - d. 1 million children worldwide die each year because they are not immunized

Deuteronomy 26:12, the purpose of the tithe is to minister to the needs of the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow.

1. **The Levite** – he basically worked in the tabernacle and took care of it (he worked for the church)
2. **The Stranger** – a temporary inhabitant, a newcomer lacking inherited rights
3. **The Fatherless** – an unprotected, vulnerable child who most often times was living in poverty
4. **The Widow** – a woman who has to fend for herself because of the death of a husband

The tithe was to provide income for the Levite so they could spend their time meeting the needs of the strangers, fatherless, and widows in the Kingdom of God. It has always been the mind of God for His Kingdom and those who are citizens of it, to meet the needs of the poor. It has been proven over the years; the federal government has been ineffective with meeting the needs of impoverished people in the world. The reason this has always been and shall continue to be is because God never intended for any government to remedy this problem, only His Kingdom. When you tithe, you provide your church the resources to meet the needs of the world's poor. There is a promise to those who will use their tithe to meet the needs of the poor of the world. **Proverbs 19:17 (NIV)**, Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done.

Today, bring the tithe into the storehouse and help meet the needs of the world's poor.

Lesson
46

Eight Reasons Why People Don't Tithe

Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. (Malachi 3:8{b})

REASON 1 – THE LACK OF FAITH: Hebrews 11:6{a}, But without faith it is impossible to please him. Some people don't tithe because they don't have faith to do so. Tithing must be done by faith in the Word of God only. Circumstances cannot dictate when to tithe. The enemy will always cause circumstances not to be favorable as it pertains to tithing. Remember faith is not what you see, but what you don't see.

REASON 2 – REBELLION: 1 Samuel 15:23{a}, For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Rebellion is an act or a show of defiance toward an authority or established convention. Some people don't tithe because they refuse no matter what the Word, leadership, or God says. This is very dangerous because God deals with the sin of rebellion the same way He deals with the sin of witchcraft.

REASON 3 – LACK OF UNDERSTANDING: Proverbs 4:7{b} (AMP), And with all you have gotten, get understanding (discernment, comprehension, and interpretation). Some people don't tithe because they're not informed of the reason, the responsibility, and the rewards of tithing. Good teaching and an open heart is the cure for this problem.

REASON 4 – PREOCCUPATION WITH OTHER THINGS: Colossians 3:2 (J.B. Phillips N.T.), Give your heart to the heavenly things, not to the passing things of earth. With the tremendously hectic pace of life as we know it, some people are so caught up in the things of life; they don't take time to think about the things of God, like tithing. It is as if they are so focused on their life's issues and challenges, they can't see anything else.

REASON 5 – SELFISHNESS: Philippians 2:4 (CEB), Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others. Tithing is basically a selfless act. When a person tithes, his focus isn't on his own needs. It is on the needs of others. Selfish people are self-centered;

tithing puts the needs of others before their own.

REASON 6 - OUTSIDE INFLUENCE: Mark 4:24{a} (NIV), Jesus said to them, "Be careful what you listen to." Some people would tithe, but they allow individuals who don't believe in tithing, influence them not to tithe. When it comes to the things of GOD, you have to think for yourself. Acts 2:40{b}, save yourselves.

REASON 7 - BELIEF IN FALSE DOCTRINE: 1Timothy 4:1 (NIRV), The Holy Spirit clearly says that in the last days some people will leave the faith. They will follow spirits that will fool them. They will believe things demons will teach them. Demons understand the power of the tithe; they influence people not to tithe through anti-biblical doctrines. People who follow the teaching of demons will end up where all demons will go.

REASON 8 - LACK OF CONSISTENCY: James 1:8 (AMP) [For being as he is] a man of two minds (hesitating, dubious, irresolute), [he is] unstable and unreliable and uncertain about everything [he thinks, feels, decides]. Some people don't tithe because their life is so unstable. Remember, a tither consistently tithes every time he receives increase.

Don't allow any reason stop you from fulfilling God's will for your life.

Today, return to God His tithe and receive God's best for your life.

Lesson

47

Eight Reasons You Should Tithe

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. (Malachi 3:10)

*In this lesson, you will discover **Eight Reasons You Should Tithe.***

REASON 1 – TO HONOR GOD: Proverbs 3:9, Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase: When you honor GOD, you show Him esteem. You confer distinction on Him as the creator and sustainer of the universe. When you tithe, you actually give God respect for who He is.

REASON 2 – TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR HERITAGE: Galatians 3:29, And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Abraham was the first tithe payer of record (Genesis 14:20). Abraham's grandson, Jacob, paid tithes (Genesis 28:22). Scripture says that Levi, Abraham's descendant and the father of the tribe from which the priesthood came, paid tithes in Abraham (Hebrews 7:9). As a child of Abraham and an heir of the promise of Abraham, you acknowledge your relationship by paying tithes.

REASON 3 – TO FULFILL AN OBLIGATION: Matthew 23:23 (CEB), How terrible it will be for you legal experts and Pharisees! Hypocrites! You give to God a tenth of mint, dill, and cumin, but you forget about the more important matters of the Law: justice, peace, and faith. You ought to tithe, but without forgetting about those more important matters. Jesus did not criticize the Pharisees for paying tithes. He commended them. He said it was something they "ought" to have done. The word "ought" expresses an obligation or duty. This is something every Christian ought to do.

REASON 4 – TO SHOW YOUR LOVE FOR GOD: Song of Solomon 8:7 (CEV), Love cannot be drowned by oceans or floods; it cannot be bought, no matter what is offered. Love is the strongest motivation in the world. For someone who genuinely loves the Lord, the tithe is only the beginning of

his giving because of his love for God.

REASON 5 – TO ESCAPE CONDEMNATION: *Malachi 3:10*, Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. How sad it is that people who are honest in business and pay their debts to banks, stores, and the government will not pay God what belongs to Him! He does not give us the authority to use His tithes for other purposes, but we have the power to spend it as long as it is in our hands. Nevertheless, a person is condemned if he spends God's money.

REASON 6 – TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL: *1 Corinthians 9:14*, Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel. Some ministers have endured financial hardships and deprivation in order to proclaim the gospel in needy areas. It is a disgrace to a church if the pastor has to take a secular job to supply his family's needs when there should be sufficient tithing available to allow him to do God's work on a full-time basis.

REASON 7 – TO AVOID THE CURSE: *Malachi 3:9*, Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Some people put their money into "a bag with holes" (*Haggai 1:6*), They do not give God His tithe, but they spend the money for automobile repairs, medical bills, and a thousand other things that they might have avoided if they had been faithful to God in their giving. Those of you, who don't tithe, fall under the curse.

REASON 8 – TO ENJOY GOD'S BLESSINGS: *Malachi 3:10 (KJV)*, Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. God blesses the people who pay tithes. They do not always have the most money or the best clothes, but they are blessed. These are just a few reasons why you should tithe; there are many others. Don't allow any reason stop you from fulfilling God's will for your life.

Today, return to God His tithe and receive God's best for your life.

Lesson

48

Your Tithe Is Your Worship

And it shall be, when thou art come in unto the land which the LORD thy Go^s giveth thee for an inheritance, an^s possesseth it, an^s dwellest therein; That thou shalt take of the first of all the fruit of the earth (tithe), which thou shalt bring of thy lan^s that the LORD thy Go^s giveth thee, an^s shalt put it in a basket, an^s shalt go unto the place which the LORD thy Go^s shall choose to place his name there. [5] An^s thou shalt speak an^s say before the LORD thy Go^s, A Syrian rea^sy to perish was my father, an^s he went ^sown into Egypt, and sojourned there with a few, and became there a nation, great, mighty, an^s populous: [10] An^s now, behol^s, I have brought the firstfruits of the lan^s (tithe), which thou, O LORD, hast given me. An^s thou shalt set is before the LORD thy Go^s, an^s worship before the LORD thy Go^s.

(Deuteronomy 26: 1, 2, 5, 10)

In this lesson, you will discover how Your Tithe Is Your Worship.

In the beginning, when God created man, He created him like no other creature on planet earth. Man is the only creature made in the image and likeness of God. Man alone became a living soul through God; breathing into him the breath of life. The reason God made man different from all other creatures is because no other creature, fashioned on earth, can worship God like man can. Think about it for a minute, there is no other creature on earth that has the power of intelligent speech like man. No other creature has the intelligence man has. No other creature has a soul like man has. These differences sets mankind apart from everything Elohim created on earth. Man is a creature of worship. The most important thing you will ever do is worship God. God desires worship from man. **Exodus 20:4-5** is part of the Ten Commandments the Lord gave Israel:

- I. **Exodus 20:4-5** - Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the

Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me.

Basically what the Lord is saying to Israel, His covenant people, is that when it comes to worship, He is very serious. For God to include the concept of worship in the Ten Commandments tells us that He places a high premium on worship. Worship is important to God.

II. In **Deuteronomy 26:2**, the Lord is giving Israel instructions in terms of how they are supposed to inhabit the promise land. It should be no surprise that, one of the first things He starts dealing with, as He instructs them how to approach their new home, is worship. He does this by connecting their worship to their tithe. **Deuteronomy 26:10**, And now, behold, I have brought the **firstfruits of the land** (tithe), which thou, O LORD, hast given me. And thou shalt set it before the LORD thy God, and worship before the LORD thy GOD. The Lord is careful to let His covenant people know that there is a connection between their first fruit (the tithe) and their worship. As a matter of fact, in the mind of God, bringing to Him the tithe was a part of the worship ceremony. We often quote **St. John 4:23-24**. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth. When the Bible says the father is seeking worshippers, it is literally saying that father is seeking tithers. This is true because true worshippers are tithers. You cannot be a worshipper without tithing. The essence of worship is obedience. You cannot worship God without obedience. A true worshipper is one who is obedient to the Lord, by bringing the tithe to the house of worship and presenting it to Him as an act of worship. There should be little wonder why we, as worshippers are instructed by the Lord, to bring His tithe to the place of worship. The tithe is an instrument of worship.

Today, return to God His tithe and fulfill your responsibility as a true worshipper.

Lesson
49

Your Tithe Is His Tithe

When thou hast made an end of tithing all the tithes of thine increase the third year, which is the year of tithing, and hast given it unto the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, that they may eat within thy gates, and be filled; [13] Then thou shalt say before the LORD thy God, I have brought away the hallowed things out of mine house, and also have given them unto the Levite, and unto the stranger, to the fatherless, and to the widow, according to all thy commandments which thou hast commanded me: I have not transgressed thy commandments, neither have I forgotten them.
(Deuteronomy 26:12-13)

In this lesson, you will discover how the tithe is Holy in basic essence of God's nature that makes Him what He is. When we say God is holy, we are saying basically two things:

1. God is distinct and separate from all creatures He has made; there is nothing like God.
2. God is totally 100 percent morally pure; there are no inconsistencies in God.

Since God is holy, everything associated with Him has to be holy. God cannot be connected to anything that is not holy like Him. He tells Israel, his covenant people, in **Leviticus 11:45**, For I am the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy. God is sharing with His covenant people, that if they are to be connected with Him in covenant, they must be distinct, separate from other people, and morally pure. He uses the Hebrew word, "kä•ōshe".

In **Deuteronomy 26:13**, Jehovah calls the tithe, "the hallowed thing." The word "hallowed" comes from the Hebrew word "kō'•esh" meaning sacredness, separateness, a thing consecrated to God. Both Hebrew words, "kä•ōshe" in **Leviticus 11:45** and "kō'•esh" in **Deuteronomy 26:13** share the same meaning. The basic concept is that anything holy belongs to God for His divine purpose and use. When something is holy to God, it means it is special to Him.

In the scriptures, there are a number of things Jehovah considered holy; they included:

1. The ground Moses was standing on as he saw the burning bush, **Exodus 3:5**
2. The Sabbath day, **Exodus 16:23**
3. The nation of Israel, **Exodus 19:6**
4. The anointing oil **Exodus 30:31**
5. The temple, **Psalms 11:4**
6. The Lord's name, **Psalms 99:3**

According to **Deuteronomy 26:13**, the tithe is holy. The King James uses the word "hallowed," which means, "holy." The tithe belongs to the Lord and is to be used for His divine purpose. **Leviticus 27:30** also confirms this truth, "And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD's: it is holy unto the LORD." Since the tithe is "holy," it cannot and should not be used for any other purpose than that which the Lord has ordained or prescribed. Whenever anything "holy" unto the LORD is used for any other purpose, there are always consequences connected to that action. **Malachi 3:8-9** confirms this truth, "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. [9]Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation." The reason there is an automatic curse released in the life of a nation or individual who uses the tithe for any other purpose than which the Lord has ordained is because it is holy. The Word clearly tells every covenant believer that there is only one thing we are to do with God's tithe according to **Malachi 3:10{a}** "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse."

Today, return GOD'S holy tithe to His holy temple and watch the blessings of a holy GOD manifest in your life.

Lesson
50

Tithing Is An Act Of The Heart

When thou hast made an end of tithing all the tithes of thine increase the third year, which is the year of tithing, and hast given it unto the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, that they may eat within thy gates, and be filled; [16] This day the LORD thy God hath commanded thee to do these statutes and judgments: thou shalt therefore keep and do them with all thine heart, and with all thy soul. (Deuteronomy 26:12, 16)

*In this lesson, you will discover how **Tithing Is An Act of the Heart.***

Holidays are some of the most joyous times of the year. Days like Christmas bring untold joy to family members, friends, associates, and sometimes strangers. This is primarily true because of the countless numbers of gifts exchanged during this special time. When a gift is given from one person to the next, it represents more than just the monetary amount paid for the gift. It also represents the heart of the giver as he made a sacrifice to make that special person feel loved. In essence, giving is a matter of the heart. The motive behind the gift is more important than the gift itself.

How would you feel if someone you loved gave you an expensive gift, but his heart really wasn't in it? That person you cared so much for gave you a gift, but their heart really wasn't in it. Maybe your child gave you the gift because he was forced to give it to you by the other parent. On the other hand, maybe a relative gave you a gift because he knew you were going to reciprocate. In other words, you received a gift that had no emotional tie to it, it was purely monetary. That kind of gift couldn't mean the same as a gift someone gave you from his heart. Giving goes a lot further than money, it is a matter of the heart and soul. This is exactly what our text deals with as Israel returns to Jehovah, their covenant-keeping God, their tithe. The Lord tells Israel, in **Deuteronomy 26:16**, how they should bring Him the tithe.

1. **Deuteronomy 26:16** - This day the LORD thy God hath commanded thee to do these statutes and judgments: thou shalt therefore keep and **do them with all thine heart, and with all thy soul.**

2. **Deuteronomy 26:16 (The Message)** - This very day God, your God, commands you to follow these rules and regulations, **to live them out with everything you have in you.**
3. **Deuteronomy 26:16 (GNT)** - Today the Lord your God commands you to obey all his laws; so obey them **faithfully with all your heart.**

When the Lord observes you as you return to Him His tithe, He is not looking at the amount; He is looking at your heart. **1 Samuel 16:7{b}**, for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart. God knows that if your heart is right, the amount will be right. Your tithe is an act of love; a display of your affection for what the Lord means to you. For Israel, the Lord was Jehovah-Jireh, their provider; Jehovah-Shalom, their peace; Jehovah-Nissi, their banner; Jehovah-Ropheka, their healer; and the list goes on and on. Since Jehovah was all this to Israel, their response to Him was love. One of the primary ways Jehovah wanted them to show their love was to bring to Him the first-fruit or the tithe. Basically, Jehovah wanted Israel, His covenant people, to show their love by faithfully tithing. This is how He wanted them to show their love. This single act was not only a physical act; it was also a psychological act. He wanted their heart to be in it. For those who refuse to return to God His tithe, the expression of love is not part of the equation. I suggest for a person who will not tithe, it is a clear indication that individual doesn't love God. For those who do tithe, we all need to check our motives and make sure we are tithing as an act of our love for our great God.

Today, return to God His tithe, it is An Act of Your Heart

Lesson
51

The Tithe Is Your Covenant Connector

An• Melchize•ek king of Salem brought forth brea• an• wine: an• he was the priest of the most high Go•. An• he blesse• him, an• sai•, Blesse• be Abram of the most high Go•, possessor of heaven an• earth: An• blesse• be the most high Go•, which hath •elivere• thine enemies into thy han•. An• he gave him tithes of all. (Genesis 14:18-20)

*In this lesson, you will discover how **The Tithe Is Your Covenant Connector**.*

Most of you are familiar with the concept of a connector. With the increase numbers of people who surf the web, connecting is an everyday event. Most of you understand that until your computer is connected to the Internet, you cannot surf the World Wide Web. There is something called an Internet Service Provider (ISP) that connects your computer to the Internet. Without an ISP, your computer will never be able connect you to eBay, YouTube, email, Facebook, Twitter, etc. The purpose of a connector is to join, link, or fasten two or more things together; it unites or binds things to each other. Just like your Internet Service Provider connects your computer to the Internet, your tithe connects you financially to the Abrahamic Covenant. It is your covenant connector. Until you start tithing, you are not connected to the Abrahamic blessing. According to **Genesis 14**, Abram, whose name was later changed to Abraham, was victorious in a battle with seven kings. He entered into this battle because these seven kings took his nephew, Lot, captive. The Bible says this about Abram:

- I. **Genesis 14:16-20 (NIV)** - "He recovered all the goods and brought back his relative Lot and his possessions, together with the women and the other people. After Abram returned from defeating Kedorlaomer and the kings allied with him, the king of Sodom came out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, and he blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. And praise be to God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your

hand." Then Abram gave him a tenth (the tithe) of everything.

- II. **Genesis 14:19** - Melchizedek, who was the pre-incarnate Christ, blessed Abram. This is where the Abrahamic blessing was released that we read so much about in the Bible. **Genesis 14:20**, the blessing, Melchizedek released in the life of Abram, was connected to Abram's tithe. Melchizedek, who is Christ appearing before his incarnation or birth, knew that Abram would give Him a tithe from the spoils from the battle. The tithe, which Abram gave to Melchizedek, connected him to the blessing that Jehovah promised Abram in **Genesis 17:4-8**, As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations. [5] Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee. [6] And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee. [7] And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. [8] And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.

The same blessing Melchizedek released in the life of Abram is yours by faith according to **Galatians 3:9**, "So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham." Remember, your tithe, release by faith, is your covenant connector; it connects you to the blessing of Abraham.

Today, release your faith by returning to the Lord His tithe and connect your life to the blessing of Abraham!

Lesson

52

The Tithe Includes All Financial Increase

An^e Melchize^eek king of Salem brought forth brea^e an^e wine: an^e he was the priest of the Most High Go^e. An^e he blesse^e him, an^e sai^e, Blesse^e be Abram of the most high Go^e, possessor of heaven an^e earth: An^e blesse^e be the most high Go^e, which hath ^eliver^e thine enemies into thy han^e. And he gave him tithes of all. (Genesis 14:18-20)

*In this lesson, you will discover how **The Tithe Includes All Financial Increase.***

JESUS makes a statement in **Matthew 5:18 (NLT)**, I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of God's law will disappear until its purpose is achieved. Every letter, punctuation mark, and word in the scripture is important. Every Word has a divine purpose. In this lesson, I want to focus on the word ALL. The two primary scriptures used to consider the word "all" are:

Genesis 14:20 - And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

Malachi 3:10 - Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. All is defined as:

1. The whole of (used in referring to quantity, extent, or duration)
2. The whole number of
3. The greatest possible (used in referring to quality or degree)
4. Every; all kinds; all sorts.
5. The whole quantity or amount, or number

What the scripture teaches us about tithes is biblical. You cannot bring part of the tithe; you must bring the entire tithe. God wants “all” of the tithe. Anyone who brings less than 10 percent of his increase isn’t bringing the tithe. Anything less than 10 percent isn’t a tithe. You cannot pay on the tithe; you must bring all of it.

Another issue people wrestle with when it comes to the tithe is what do they tithe on? You tithe on all your financial increase including settlements, inheritances, monetary gifts, surprise money, investments, and money you didn’t have before, etc. All of this includes the concept of all. Any monetary increase is the money you tithe on. That is what it means to bring “all” the tithe into the storehouse.

Many people aren’t blessed financially because they are not tithing from the principle of “all”. To take any of God’s tithes is like taking all of it. The Lord wants “all” of the tithe. When you bring “all” the tithe into the storehouse or the local church, you are tithing from a biblical point of view. This is what obedience to the Word of God is, strict adherence to the Word. Anything less is not tithing. Remember, every WORD in the scripture is important; it has a divine purpose. When the Lord says bring “all” the tithe, that is exactly what He means! Anything less forfeits you from receiving the blessings of the Lord in your life. All means all! When you fulfill all of God’s Word, you release Him to fulfill all of His Word.

Today, bring “all” the tithe into the storehouse and watch God fulfill His promise of the open Heaven in your life.

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