

# The Blessed Life 2

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**Proverbs 10:22** – It's the Lord's blessing **that brings wealth** and never does it bring trouble as well.

- How does God bless His people?
- Tithes and offerings

### God's Ways Are Not Our Ways

**Isaiah 55:8-9** – <sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, says the LORD. <sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

### Reformation vs. Redemption

Every demand for **reformation** is accompanied with an act of **redemption**.

- Give (*reformation*) and it shall be given back to you (*redemption*). – Luke 6:38
- Bring the tithe (*reformation*) – I will open the windows of heaven to you (*redemption*) – Malachi 3:10
- Honor your father and mother (*reformation*) – It will be well with you and you will live long of the earth (*redemption*) – Ephesians 6:2-3
- We left all (*reformation*) – No man has left family, house or land (*redemption*) – Mark 10:28-31

When you make God about **reformation** rather than **redemption**, you take the “Father” out of God and replace Him with a religious “task master.”

**Proverbs 3:9-10** – <sup>9</sup> Honor the LORD with your possessions, And with the **firstfruits or first part of all your income**; <sup>10</sup> So your barns will be **filled with plenty**, And your vats will **overflow** with new wine.

### The Tithe (Reformation) that Brings Blessing (Redemption)

Tithing isn't giving; it is simply stewardship of the Lord's possessions and a defining of the heart of the individual.

**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.**

**Hebrews 7:8** - Here mortal men receive tithes, but there **He receives them**, of whom it is witnessed that **He lives**.

Tithing and giving is a matter of **reforming** our actions, based upon an understanding of a **redemptive** Father.

**Malachi 3:7-10** – <sup>7</sup> Ever since the time of your forefathers you have **turned away** from my decrees and have not kept them. **Return to me**, and I will return to you," says the LORD Almighty. "But you ask, '**How are we to return?**'" <sup>8</sup> "Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' " **In tithes and offerings.** <sup>9</sup> You are **under a curse**-the whole nation of you-**because you are robbing me.** <sup>10</sup> Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. **Test me** in this," says the LORD Almighty, "**and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.**"

God says, "Put me to the Test!"

God is giving us a "Tithe Challenge."

Make this about **redemption**, not **reformation**!

For some, the tithe will simply be an act of obedience, leading into redemption. For some it will require obedience, mixed with great faith, due to your financial condition.

Start with a percentage that requires you to, "trust and prove God."

The people you have seen in the videos shared not only their successes, but the struggles to act upon God's Word.

Let this be a time when you experience the **faithfulness and redemption** of your Heavenly Father.

This will be the best year of your life, if it is your **best year spiritually**.

