

The Blessed Life 3

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Psalm 35:27 - Let them shout for joy and be glad, who **favor my righteous cause**; and let them say continually, "Let the LORD be magnified, who has **pleasure in the prosperity** of His servant or is pleased with the success of his servant or **enjoys helping his child.**"

Religion has replaced our **Heavenly Father** with a heartless **slave master**.

Romans 8:32 - Since God did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't God, who gave us Christ, also **freely** give us everything else?

Can you tell me what your children have **earned**?

Philippians 4:15-19 – ¹⁵ Now you Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church with the exemption of yourselves, had anything to do with me as far as **giving and receiving**. ¹⁶ For even in Thessalonica you sent more than once to relieve my wants and needs. ¹⁷ **It's not your money that I am anxious for**, but I seek and am eager for the fruit and harvest of blessing which increases to your account. ¹⁸ But I have all which I require and more than I require. I am fully supplied. ¹⁹ But my God shall supply **all your needs according to His riches** in glory by Christ Jesus.

Paul taught **giving and receiving**.

It is biblical to expect to receive from a giving God.

II Corinthians 9:5-6,9-11 – ⁵ This is my reason then for urging the brothers to visit you before I come myself, so that they can get your promised gift ready in good time. So that your gift may be **a real act of grace and spontaneity and not money that has been squeezed out of you or given under pressure**. ⁶ **Remember this:** He who **sows sparingly and grudgingly** will also **reap sparingly and grudgingly**, and he who **sows generously** and that blessing may come to someone, will also **reap a generous and plentiful harvest**.

⁹ The scriptures say of such a man, "He scatters his gifts and money to the poor, his deeds of charity go on forever." ¹⁰ And God, who supplies seed (money) **for the sower** and bread (money) for eating, will supply you with seed (money) and multiply it, and will **increase the crop of your charities and giving**. ¹¹ The more you are **enriched by God**, the more scope there will be for your generous giving.

Stewardship is what we do with 100% of our money, not just the 10% that belongs to God.

Malachi 3:7-10 – ⁷ "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?**'" ⁸ Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' **In tithes and offerings.** ⁹ You are **under a curse**-the whole nation of you-**because you are robbing me.** ¹⁰ 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**.

Don't make this about money, make it about **proving the faithfulness of God** in your life.

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**.

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**.