

#BLESSEDlife 3

August 20, 2017 | mediaatvictory.com

Galatians 3:29 (NIV) – ²⁹ If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Romans 4:12 (NIV) - ¹² walk in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had

Hebrews 6:12-20 / 7:1-8 (NIV/NKJV) – ¹² that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises. ¹³ When God made his promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for him to swear by, he swore by himself, ¹⁴ saying, "I will surely bless you and give you many descendants." ¹⁵ And so after waiting patiently, Abraham received what was promised. ¹⁶ Men swear by someone greater than themselves, and the oath confirms what is said and puts an end to all argument. ¹⁷ Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. ¹⁸ God did this so that, by two unchangeable things [*His Promise and His Oath*] in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope [*The Promise*] offered to us may be greatly encouraged. ¹⁹ We have this hope [*The Promise*] as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It [*The Promise*] enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, ²⁰ where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.

¹ This Melchizedek was king of Salem and priest of God Most High. He met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings and blessed him, ² and Abraham gave him a tenth or a tithe of everything. First, his name means "king of righteousness"; then also, "king of Salem" means "king of peace." ³ Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, like the Son of God he remains a priest forever. ⁴ Just think how great he was: Even the patriarch Abraham gave him a tenth or a tithe of the plunder! ⁵ Now the law requires the descendants of Levi who become priests to collect a tenth from the people — that is, their brothers — even though their brothers are descended from Abraham. ⁶ This man, however, did not trace his descent from Levi, yet he collected a tenth from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises. ⁷ And without doubt the lesser person is blessed by the greater. ⁸ In the one case, the tithe is collected by men who die; but in the other case, the tithe is collected by him who is declared to be living.

The lesser is blessed by the greater. Men swear by something greater than themselves. Tithing is saying God is the greater and the one from whom you expect to live a blessed life. Keeping the dime is saying the "dime" is the greater and you expect to live a blessed life from the monetary value of a dime.

The capacity for giving and generosity is rooted in the confidence of the unending supply of the “blessed.”

Malachi 3:6-11 (NIV/NKJV) – ⁶ "I the Lord do not change. So you, O descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. 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. ¹¹ "And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes.

Take Aways:

1. My capacity for generosity is rooted in my confidence in the blessing.
2. How I steward a dime of every dollar declares who I have deemed to be the greater.
3. What is my next step?