

# Surrendering Your Finances to Jesus

**Malachi 3:10** (HCSB) *Test Me in this way,” says the LORD of Hosts. “See if I will not open the floodgates of heaven and pour out a blessing for you without measure.*

**Text:** Malachi 3:6-12

South Orlando Baptist Church

**Topics:** Tithing, God’s Blessing, Stewardship

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**Series:** I Surrender All

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Surrendering your finances to Jesus will cause you to...

1) Repent of your \_\_\_\_\_ (7-9)

A) God is plainly declaring that the tithe belongs to him. If the tithe belongs to him, and we use it for ourselves, what else can it be called except robbery?

2) Restore a Commitment to Tithe \_\_\_\_\_ (10)

A) “Storehouse”: A room in the temple to store the tithes of crops and animals brought by the people (cf. 2 Chr. 31:11; Neh. 10:38,39; 12:44; 13:12). This was the temple treasury.

B) In Malachi’s time, tithes were used...

1. To fund the theocracy by sustaining the Levites (cf. Lev. 27:30–33; Num. 18:8–28; Deut. 12:18; Neh. 13:10)

2. To fund the natural religious festivals (Deut. 12:6–17; 14:22–27)

3. To care for the poor (Deut. 14:28, 29)

3) Receive God's Promised \_\_\_\_\_ (10-12)

A) God will pour down blessings, rebuke the devourer, and make your situation a delight. There will be no more need!

# **Application Questions**

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message.

**1. Malachi's time was one of apathy. What signs of apathy do you see in the church today?**

**2. What does God's plea for his people to return to him tell you about him? What does this mean to you?**

**3. Think about some ways in which God's work could be advanced by his people giving more generously. Think about your own spending. What can you do to 'free up' more of your money for the Lord's work?**

**4. How would this passage help you to deal with a relatively wealthy fellow Christian believer who struggles to maintain a disciplined attitude to finance and who expresses the view that he or she does not consider systematic and regular giving to the church to be a requirement under New Testament teaching?**

**5. How had Israel wearied God? (2:17)**

**6. How were the people oblivious to their sin? (2:17)**

**7. What warning did God give? (3:1-5)**

**8. What was the basis for hope in God? (3:6)**

**9. What did God require of Israel? (3:7-12)**

**10. What is the extent of the price we pay, and possibly cause others to pay, when we knowingly disobey God?**

**11. When have you clearly sensed that your fellowship with God was disrupted because of your sin?**

**12. In what ways do we try to rationalize our sins?**

**13. How have you been guilty of robbing God?**

## **FOR FURTHER STUDY**

**1. Read Hosea 14:1–4. What does this passage teach us about returning to God?**

**2. Read Matthew 6:1–4 and 2 Corinthians 8:1–9:15. What do these passages teach us about the matter of giving?**