

***An Invitation
To Give***

Malachi 3:7-12

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7 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 said, Wherein shall we return?

8 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.

Malachi 3:7-12 - continued

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.

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.

12 And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.

I. The Lord's Statement that Calls for a Change (3:7)

A. They rejected God's instructions

“... ye are gone away from mine ordinances”

1. It is a measurement of our love

John 14:21

He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

2. It is a measurement of our gratitude

Romans 1:21

Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

I. The Lord's Statement that Calls for a Change (3:7)

B. They refused God's invitation

"... Return unto me, and I will return unto you"

1. God desires intimate fellowship

2. We must move back toward God

James 4:8

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

I. The Lord's Statement that Calls for a Change (3:7)

C. They rationalized God's indictment

“Wherein shall we return?”

1. Disobedience leads to excuses

2. Disobedience dulls and deadens our conscience

1 Timothy 4:1-2

1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

II. The Lord's Answer with a Charge (3:8-9)

A. The charge of their sin (v 8)

- 1. Their charge was robbery**
- 2. Their charge was unbelievable**
- 3. Their charge was unadmitted**
- 4. Their charge was undeniable**

II. The Lord's Answer with a Charge (3:8-9)

B. The consequences of their sin (v 9)

1. They were robbing themselves

Haggai 1:6

Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.

2. Their robbery was widespread (v 9)

“...even this whole nation..”

III. The Lord's Promise With a Condition

(3:10-12)

A. God's provision (v 10)

- 1. There should be a gathering place for our tithes and offerings**

1 Corinthians 16:2

Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

- 2. There is a reason for bringing the tithe and offering**

III. The Lord's Promise With a Condition

(3:10-12)

A. God's provision (v 10) - continued

3. There is the result of faithful giving

Luke 6:38

Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

III. The Lord's Promise With a Condition

(3:10-12)

B. God's protection (v 11)

1. Our lack of kingdom investment bring opposition

Isaiah 1:7

Your country *is* desolate, your cities *are* burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and *it is* desolate, as overthrown by strangers.

2. Our proper investment will bring His involvement

III. The Lord's Promise With a Condition

(3:10-12)

C. God's prestige is lifted (v 12)

When we are faithful in the area of Biblical Giving:

1. God is glorified in our personal lives

2. God is glorified in our church

**“We are never more like Jesus than when we give
sacrificially”**

***Do We Accept
The Invitation?***