

Malachi 3:7-12 – Robbing God

The people of Judah in the time of Malachi didn't acknowledge God's love for them. They offered unacceptable sacrifices. They were unfaithful to one another and to God in their marriage relationships. They unwisely questioned God's justice. God's next accusation against the people of Judah was that they were robbing him.

Read Malachi 3:7-12.

In verse 7 God made an accusation against Judah and then he gave them an exhortation and a promise. What accusation did God make against Judah? What exhortation did God give to Judah? What promise did God give to Judah?

How did the people respond to God? (3:7)

What specific accusation did God make against Judah in verse 8?

How did the people respond to God's accusation? (3:8)

God got more specific. How were the people robbing God? (3:8)

What was the result of their robbing God? (3:9)

Who was involved in robbing God? How widespread was this problem? (3:9)

What did God command the people to do at the beginning of verse 10?

There was a spiritual need for tithing but there was also a practical need for tithing. Why was tithing important for the people of Judah, the Levites and the priests? See also Nehemiah 13:10-12. (3:10)

God challenged the people to put him to the test. What blessings would God give the people if they brought to God the full tithe? (3:10-12)

If Judah obeyed, how would the nations respond? (3:12)

Is the challenge and promise of verses 10-12 applicable to us today? How have you heard these verses used? Have you heard someone challenge people to send in seed money of one thousand dollars and tell the givers that they would receive much more back from God? Is this a proper use of this passage? Why or why not?

Did Jesus tithe? Are Christians required to give a tenth of what they have to God?

What did the Old Testament require concerning tithing? See Leviticus 27:30-33, Numbers 18:21-32, Deuteronomy 12:10-19, 14:22-29, 26:12-15.

What are the New Testament principles of giving? See 2 Corinthians 9:1-15, Philippians 4:14-20, James 1:17.1