

Hope Chapel Series: “God will Go the Extra Mile to Bless” - Part 4

Message Summary: Today’s message contains a key ingredient when it comes to the health and welfare of God’s people. The Lord says in Malachi 3:6-11 that He has established a principle about the tithe (10%) and people can not violate it if they are going to live and enjoy life. To obey this principle is to experience untold blessings and to violate it is to experience great difficulty until the Christian come to terms with it. The Word of God promises your future will flourish once you’ve established your life with tithing your first fruits to God.

Establish Your Life with Tithing: God Will Bless

Malachi 3:6-11

7 TRUTHS IN RELATIONSHIP TO THE TITHE:

Malachi 3:6-11

- 1. God does not change - v. 6**
- 2. God’s principles do not change - v. 7**
- 3. To obey God is to return to these principles - v. 7**
- 4. To spend God’s tithe for our use is the same as robbery - v. 8**
- 5. Misappropriation of the tithe is what invokes the curse - v. 9**
- 6. Obedience results in phenomenal blessings - v. 10**
- 7. Obedience insures God’s personal protection - v. 11**

BIBLICAL STATEMENTS CONCERNING “FIRST THINGS”:

- 1. God says, “I am FIRST”.**
Isaiah 41:4; Isaiah 44:6; Exodus 20:3
- 2. Give to God FIRST.**
1 Kings 17:9-16; Matthew 6:24; Luke 12:30-32
- 3. God says the FIRST THINGS are HIS.**
Exodus 13:1-3; Exodus 13:12,13
- 4. God says the FIRST THINGS are HOLY.**
Exodus 23:19; Leviticus 23:10; Leviticus 27:28-30
- 5. FIRST THINGS are to be CONSUMED (destroyed).**
Joshua 6:17-19; 7:10-12; Deuteronomy 26:12-15

LifeGroup QUESTIONS:

BEGIN IT- (5mn) Praise song & opening prayer.

OPEN IT- (10mn) What are some things you'd never give up, no matter how much money you were offered for them?

EXPLORE IT- (60min) Read Malachi 3:6-11. Review all seven TRUTHS IN RELATIONSHIP TO THE TITHE one at a time and share what you understood about each truth.

1. What is God wanting us to know when He declares "I am First"?
2. Why would God be so demanding to ask us to "give to Him First"?
3. If "First Things belong to God", is it still stealing from God if we keep it? Why?
4. How shall a person remove the curse from their finances and receive God's blessing (Mal.3:10)?

APPLY IT- (15mn) How can you remind yourself of God's generosity the next time you are tempted to hold back your tithe? Pray for those still fearful about their finances and tithing.