



The Bible Speaks

GOD'S MONEY IN MY PURSE

When Christ began His ministry in Jerusalem, one of the first things he did was to drive the money changers out of the temple. We find that three and a half years later, as he neared the end of His ministry, the money changers had returned to the temple. Not what the Bible says Christ did, "And Jesus went into the temple of God and cast out all of them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the table of the money changers, and the seats of them that sold doves. And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called a house of prayer, but ye have made it a den of thieves." Matthew 21:12,13.

If the Lord were to visit many churches today He would say the same thing that He did 1900 years ago. Not long ago a newspaper told about a pastor of a large church in Montana who found himself short of funds to operate his church. He devised a most ingenious scheme to raise the needed funds. He had printed raffle tickets and sold chances on a case of 90 proof whisky. Some good member of his church, after having been taught how to gamble by his minister, would be the proud possessor of a case of whisky by which he could become intoxicated.

Some religionists defend such practices by saying they are necessary in order to finance the giving of the gospel. It would not be necessary to stoop to such depths of iniquity if we would take the Bible and let God show His plan for giving of the gospel.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

1. What is God's plan for providing for His work? **Malachi 3:10**

The Bible Answer: _____

2. How did Abraham show that he recognized the tithing system?
Genesis 14:18-20

The Bible Answer: _____

Note: Hebrews 7:1,2 (NT 193) also tells us that Abraham gave a tenth of all. The tithe is the tenth.

3. What portion of his income did Jacob promise God for blessings received?
Genesis 28:20-22

The Bible Answer: _____

4. For what purpose was the tithe to be used during the days of ancient Israel?
Numbers 18:21,24

The Bible Answer: _____

5. To whom does the tithe belong? **Leviticus 27:30,32**

The Bible Answer: _____

6. Upon what basis does God claim the tithe as rightfully His? **Psalms 24:1, Psalm 50:10-12**

The Bible Answer: _____

7. Who gives us the ability to earn a living? **Deuteronomy 8:18**

The Bible Answer: _____

8. What should be our response to the Lord for all that He has entrusted to us? **Proverbs 3:9,10**

The Bible Answer: _____

9. What did Jesus say concerning the faithfulness of the Jews in paying tithe? **Matthew 23:23**

The Bible Answer: _____

Note: While pointing out their failures, Jesus endorses tithe paying.

10. How does Paul say the Christian minister is to be supported? **1 Corinthians 9:13,14**

The Bible Answer: _____

11. What does a man do when he withholds tithe and offerings from God? **Malachi 3:8,9**

The Bible Answer: _____

12. What blessings does He promise to those who will be faithful in recognizing His ownership? **Malachi 3:10,11**

The Bible Answer: _____

13. When are we to think of God and our obligation to Him? **Matthew 6:33**

The Bible Answer: _____

14. How will God reward the liberal giver? **Luke 6:38**

The Bible Answer: _____

15. Where does God advise us to deposit our treasures? **Matthew 6:19-21**

The Bible Answer: _____

Thousands of stories could be told about those who have tried God's plan and who have discovered that God's promises are sure. A farmer had always been faithful in returning to God a tithe. One day he saw a dark cloud of locusts in the sky and knew that it was headed toward his farm. If the locusts ate his crop he faced financial ruin. With his family gathered about him that evening he reminded God of the promise in Malachi 3:10,11. The family went to bed that night and slept secure in the knowledge that their heavenly Father never sleeps, but watches over His own.

The next morning the farmer arose to examine his fields. He discovered that the locusts had eaten to his fence on every side, but not a green stem was left on the other side of the fence. God had kept His promise and protected the faithful farmer's crop from the locusts.

What better insurance can a man have against disaster, costly sicknesses, or accident than a partnership with the all-powerful God? Try God's plan and you will never again be without the blessings that come as you and God become partners.

As you meditate upon this subject, pause first to count your many blessings. Remember that every good and perfect gift comes from God. With your heart full and overflowing with gratitude, why not write "yes" after these suggestions?

(If you wish to respond to these questions, place a cross in the boxes.)

I desire to enter into partnership with God.

Please pray for me and my special problem.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____