

- Tithing helps us “Remember”. The problem with modern man is that his life has become so complex and his schedule so busy that he either forgets or does not take time to remember where all his blessings come from! He fails to consider the price that was paid to redeem him from sin. As a result, he neglects to honour God with his time, talents, and his treasures. The things that we love and hold dear to our hearts are just borrowed; they are not ours at all. Jesus only lets us use them to brighten our lives, so remind us, remind us, dear Lord, to Remember!

**-My Personal Prayer-**

“Lord, I want to place you first in my finances and *in every area* of my life today and every day, until Jesus comes, Amen!”

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**Signed**

## **THE VOICE OF PROPHECY SPEAKS**

WHAT BIBLE PROPHECY SAYS ABOUT YOUR FUTURE

### **AN INVESTMENT YOU CAN'T LOSE - #26**

As we witness the gain and subsequent losses of entire fortunes in modern stock markets, the bible tells us that God never intended that you and I would have to worry about the present or the future, if we would only trust Him and His plans for us. *See: Matthew 6:31,32.*

As we look at the 1<sup>st</sup> human pair in the Garden of Eden, we see **that God** provided them with a home and food. *See: Genesis 2:8; 1:29.* Adam and Eve paid no rent, taxes, had no locks or keys, or need hospitals or drugs!

God wanted them to share these blessings. We are Stewards or **managers** of God's Property. *See: Psalm 24:1; 50:10-11; Deut.8:18* God has **prior** claim on our possessions and on us.

In order to understand what God expected in their relationship with Him, God gave Adam and Eve **a test** of their love and loyalty. *See: Genesis 2:16,17* By obeying God they would show their recognition of His ownership and live forever. However, they were **unfaithful** stewards and they and the whole world lost everything! With sadistic satisfaction Satan watched and hoped to have full control of earth forever, but his plan was shattered by Christ's entrance into the world centuries later. Satan tried to **deceive** Jesus like he did to Adam and Eve.

*See: Matt.4:8,9* **But**, the things he promised Christ were

not his to give! Jesus would **not** sell out His relationship with His Father for all the wealth of this world.

By Christ's death on the cross, Satan was defeated! Everything we are or have comes stamped with the cross, made possible by Christ's eternal gift to human beings. And just like Adam and Eve, **we are stewards** of what God entrusts to us. *See: I Corinthians 4:2*

We are not only stewards of money but we are stewards of **our** time. *See: Psalm 90:12* God expects us to use our time wisely **and** He expects us to set aside a specific time period-the Sabbath, the seventh-day of the week, as a means of expressing our belief in Him as our Creator to be devoted to fellowship with Him, resting in His Word, drawing refreshment from His promises, putting aside the weekly pressures of work, shopping and worldly pursuits, and remembering Him. *See: Exodus 20:8*

Even our talents are not to be used to get the praise of men or to earn merit with God. They are loaned to us to bless others. *See: I Corinthians 4:7*

We are also stewards of the money God gives us. *See: Matthew 6:33* In Scripture we see that in addition to our time, we dedicate to God our means, acknowledging the Source of our material blessings by returning to God His portion (the sacred tithe) as a act of worship. *See: Gen.14:20; 28:22.*

How can we "thank" God for His incredible goodness to us for the gift of life, family, health, material blessing and salvation? *See: Ps.116:12* The Bible principal of tithing/stewardship provides a tangible way

of expressing our appreciation to God for all His benefits. *See: Leviticus 27:30*

The bible states that the sacred tithe is to be used **only** for the support of the service of God and the gospel ministry. *See: Numbers 18:21; I Corinthians 9:13-14.* Christ commended the tithing system at the same time rebuking the narrow-minded scribes. *See :Matthew 23:23*

The secret to financial security is the truth that 9/10<sup>th</sup> blessed of the Lord goes further than 10/10ths without His blessing. There are spiritual and pragmatic reasons for this! *See: Malachi 3:10* You see, the Lord instituted the tithing system to test our stewardship, to see if we will honour and acknowledge His ownership. But if we refuse to do this, we are **actually** robbing God, according to the Bible. *See: Malachi 3:8*

#### **-Tithing Principals of the Bible-**

- Tithing is God's plan for financing the ministry on earth by our heartfelt giving, never fearing for our own needs. *See: Luke 6:38*
- Tithing contains a secret benefit to the giver, as it helps us become less self-centered and greedy. This is part of God's plan for our growth. *See: Luke 12:13-21.* We share our blessing with the poor and needy and grow in love and compassion becoming like Jesus. *See: Matthew 6:28*