

**Series:** Dying To Give

**Message:** Whose Money Is It?

**Scripture:** Malachi 3:6-12

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**Date:** 21/22 May 2016

**Last Week:**

Treasure in Christ involves trusting him, and trusting him involves surrendering to him, and surrendering to him involves every part of our lives, including our money.

**This week:**

God doesn't need His money back ... but He does ask for it back.

**Malachi 3:6-12**

*<sup>6</sup> "For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.*

*<sup>7</sup> From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. But you say, 'How shall we return?'*

*<sup>8</sup> Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions.*

*<sup>9</sup> You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you.*

*<sup>10</sup> Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.*

*<sup>11</sup> I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the Lord of hosts.*

*<sup>12</sup> Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the Lord of hosts.*

**Exegetical Outline:**

**I. The Unchanging Nature of God (6)**

For I the Lord do not change

**II. The people have turned away from God (7a)**

You have turned aside from my statutes and not kept them

**III. God's Invitation to return to Him (7b)**

Return to me, and I will return to you.

**IV. Return by Restoring the Tithes and Offerings (8-10a)**

***They Were Robbing God***

- A. You are Robbing me by not giving the tithe and offerings
- B. You are under a curse as a result of robbing me
- C. Bring the full tithe to the storehouse

**V. God's challenge – Try Me! (10b-11)**

***They Were Robbing Themselves***

- A. I will open up the windows of heaven (give supernatural provision)
- B. I will bless until there is no more need (meet all of your needs)
- C. I will rebuke the devourer ... your vine shall not fail to bear (make you fruitful)

**VI. God's Blessing (12)**

***They Were Robbing Others***

All nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight

**Application:**

First, if you have turned away from the Lord, return ... He will be right where he's always been

Second, know that when you give to the church you Honor God, Support His mission, and Uphold His people