

# Are We Robbing God?

**Malachi 3:7–12 (NLT)** — (7) Ever since the days of your ancestors, you have scorned my decrees and failed to obey them. Now return to me, and I will return to you,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies. “But you ask, ‘How can we return when we have never gone away?’ (8) “Should people cheat God? Yet you have cheated me! “But you ask, ‘What do you mean? When did we ever cheat you?’ “You have cheated me of the tithes and offerings due to me. (9) You are under a curse, for your whole nation has been cheating me. (10) Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies, “I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won’t have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test! (11) Your crops will be abundant, for I will guard them from insects and disease. Your grapes will not fall from the vine before they are ripe,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies. (12) “Then all nations will call you blessed, for your land will be such a delight,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies.

## I) God Sets His Charge Against His People.

**Mark 10:17–23 (NLT)** — (17) As Jesus was starting out on his way to Jerusalem, a man came running up to him, knelt down, and asked, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” (18) “Why do you call me good?” Jesus asked. “Only God is truly good. (19) But to answer your question, you know the commandments: ‘You must not murder. You must not commit adultery. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. You must not cheat anyone. Honor your father and mother.’” (20) “Teacher,” the man replied, “I’ve obeyed all these commandments since I was young.” (21) Looking at the man, Jesus felt genuine love for him. “There is still one thing you haven’t done,” he told him. “Go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” (22) At this the man’s face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions. (23) Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the Kingdom of God!”

**Luke 16:10–11 (NLT)** — (10) “If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won’t be honest with greater responsibilities. (11) And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven?”

## II) The Lord Does Not Change.

**1 John 5:3 (The Message)** — (3) The proof that we love God comes when we keep his commandments and they are not at all troublesome.

## III) The Lord Makes His Charge.

## IV) The Lord Issues A challenge.

## V) God Doesn't Need Our Money.

**1 Timothy 6:17-19 (NLT)** — **(17)** Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. **(18)** Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. **(19)** By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.