

## PROVING GOD (TITHING) MALACHI 3:10

Let us go to Malachi, the third chapter, for our thought for the day. Our thought for the day is called, "Proving God." We can prove God like God proves us. We can put God to the test if we have the right spirit. Now, there is a wrong way to put God to the test and we will discuss that on a program soon, but just now, let us consult God's Word as to how we can prove Him.

The Word says here in Malachi, the third chapter, and verse ten:

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it (Malachi 3:10).

So, beloved, God will open the windows of heaven, He will open His eyes. His eyes are likened unto windows. Our eyes are likened unto the windows of our soul and God's eyelids are likened unto the doors or the shutters or the blinds of the windows. God will open His eyes and let light stream down and remove all opposition that would hinder us from being blessed, spirit, soul, and body, if we would pay our tithes unto the LORD. You owe your tithes to the church, to the pastor wherever you are obtaining your spiritual food.

So, beloved, the word *open*, God promised here to do two things: to open the windows of heaven, and to pour out. We do not have to do the opening. We do not have to do the pouring. All we have to do is to pay the tithes and God will do the opening and do the pouring. And to open the windows of heaven means the connotation of the word *open* from the very old English, and likewise, in the Hebrew, we could liken it today unto a drive-in window or a drive-by window. You know, everybody is doing business by driving up to the window these days. You drive up to the window at the bank and you endorse your check and you fill out your deposit slip and it is all done in a matter of moments through the window. This is the idea, in one sense here, that God says, "I will open up the windows." You can drive up to the windows of heaven, as it were, by

God's Spirit, get in God's chariot, in God's Spirit and drive by God's window in heaven and the idea is for travelers and for traders.

When we go to the bank, a lot of times we are travelers and we need extra supply. Sometimes you go to a bank in a foreign country because you run out of supplies. How wonderful when we go to heavens bank if we are low on substance, spiritually, beloved. If we are low on faith, if we are low on love, if we are low on peace, if we are low on mercy, we can go to heaven's bank and drive up to the window. And if God looks out, beloved, and sees that our tithe account that we are current on and sees that we have not robbed Him, beloved, then, we can do business, we can get a Traveler's check. We can get some substance to carry us through in the situation in which we are in. We can get, beloved, a traders's check, as it were. We can trade ourself and give it over to God and God will pass Himself, as it were, out through the window. We can give over our enmity. We can give over our rebellion. We can give over our hatred and our strife and our unrest and our worries and our anxieties. Give all of that in the window, then Jesus Christ pass out His Word of Love and Joy and Peace and Faith and Mercy. And we can go away rich.

How good it feels, beloved, when you are in a strange faraway country. I have been there many times and the funds get low and you go to a window where somebody from home has sent you funds, extra funds, and your pocket, then, is replenished with substance to see you through your earthly journey in that far-away country. What a good feeling, what rest, what peace, and what confidence you walk away from that window. And, likewise, beloved, many times I have been to the windows of heaven and given over myself to God and He has passed out Himself, as it were, through the window and I have gone away in rest and peace and joy and confidence, knowing that I can keep on walking through this foreign land, through this strange country as a pilgrim and walk on through and have the necessary substance to take me on my journey toward

the LORD.

So, beloved, he said that, likewise, He would also pour out a blessing. If we will pay tithes, God will open and God will pour. And that is so beautiful, the word in the Hebrew. The word *pour* means to cast, to throw, to cause to flow, to discharge or to drop. And the idea here, the connotation here, is that I will pour you out as you have need of. If you have just need of drops of rainfall, as it were, of blessing, then I will let My Word distill like drops of rain upon you. But if you have need of an overflowing experience, then God said, “I will let it overflow. I will let it pour down upon you. I will give to you as you have need of.” It means to send out in a constant stream. It is not that God says, “You pay your tithes and I will turn on the faucet and just measure out to you.” The connotation here is that I will turn on the faucet, and I will leave it flow, continually. and every time that you need something, come and put your vessel under the spout and pick up the blessing and pick up the substance that you have need of because God said, “I will pour.”

And He did not say that He would stop it. He said, “I will pour out.” And the idea is a constant continual stream flowing out. Also the word means to produce and to publish and to make known. So when God pours out the blessing, beloved, it will be so overflowing that you will not be able to keep it to yourself. You will have to find somebody and share with them because the blessing will be overflowing. All because you paid tithes, all because you did not rob God, all because you discovered that you had a privilege, beloved, to prove God.

I proved Him one time when my husband was first drafted into the Second World War as a private in the Army and I only had eighty-two dollars a month. Beloved, I paid my tithes first. Though my rent was forty dollars and my light and gas about six dollars, my phone bill about five dollars and on and on, and I had very little left. Then I fed my baby that was less than two years old, then I did a lot of fasting, then I saw God take my husband out of the Army by a

miraculous manner and give him a commissioned officer's position in the Navy, then I had plenty of money. And God began to open the Word of God after that, and it has been streaming ever since, and I know it was all because that I proved God in those days of paying my tithes and we have never ceased from that day till this, and that has been almost thirty-nine years ago.

So, beloved, pay tithes today. Do not rob God. Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank You again today for the privilege that we have indeed to give back Your substance that You have given into our keeping. We thank You, LORD, that we can prove You and we thank You that we have found You faithful indeed and just and true and that You have opened the windows of heaven and that You have poured out the blessing. Bless in radio land today and open the eyes of Your people and cause those, LORD, that have not tithed. Open their eyes that they might start obeying Your Word. And those that have tithed and have not known that they have actually purchased the privilege of open eyes in the Word of God cause them to wait upon You in a new way in the Word and in prayer because we pray in Jesus' Precious Name. Amen.