

# Questioning Our Priorities

Malachi 3:8-15



## Malachi: Probing Questions About Our Relationship with God

### Introduction:

While there are many areas of our life which reveal our priorities, there is probably no better indicator of what we consider most important than our budget. Literally, we put our money where our heart is. Malachi instructs us to prioritize two specific areas so that we may experience restored faithfulness and devotion to God.

### I. Prioritize Our R\_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 8-12)

“Every tenth of the land’s produce, grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD. <sup>31</sup>If a man decides to redeem any part of this tenth, he must add a fifth to its value.

<sup>32</sup>Every tenth animal from the herd or flock, which passes under the shepherd’s rod, will be holy to the LORD.”  
Leviticus 27:30-32

“On the first day of the week, each of you is to set something aside and save in keeping with how he prospers, so that no collections will need to be made when I come.”  
1 Corinthians 16:2

“Remember this: The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously. <sup>7</sup>Each person should do as he has decided in his heart —not reluctantly or out of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup>And God is able to make every grace overflow to you, so that in every way, always having everything you need, you may excel in every good work.” 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

“These dogs have fierce appetites;  
they never have enough.  
And they are shepherds  
who have no discernment;  
all of them turn to their own way,  
every last one for his own gain.” Isaiah 56:11

II. Prioritize Our R\_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 13-15)

“What am I going to do with you, Ephraim?  
What am I going to do with you, Judah?  
Your loyalty is like the morning mist  
and like the early dew that vanishes.” Hosea 6:4

“He mocks those who mock,  
but gives grace to the humble.” Proverbs 3:34