

The Blessing Challenge

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. (Malachi 3:8-12 NLT)

1. Melchizedek illustrated the principle of the _____.

¹⁸ And Melchizedek, the king of Salem and a priest of God Most High, brought Abram some bread and wine.

¹⁹ Melchizedek blessed Abram with this blessing: “Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth.

²⁰ And blessed be God Most High, who has defeated your enemies for you.” Then Abram gave Melchizedek a tenth of all the goods he had recovered. (Genesis 14:18-20 NLT)

You Pharisees are in for trouble! You give God a tenth of the spices from your gardens, such as mint and rue. But you cheat people, and you don't love God. You should be fair and kind to others and still give a tenth to God. (Luke 11:42 CEV)

2. The New Testament endorses _____ Christian workers.

The elders who do good work as leaders should be considered worthy of receiving *double pay*, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching. (1 Timothy 5:17 GNT)

3. God issues the Blessing _____ to you.

⁶ Don’t worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7 CSB)