



### Put God to the Test!

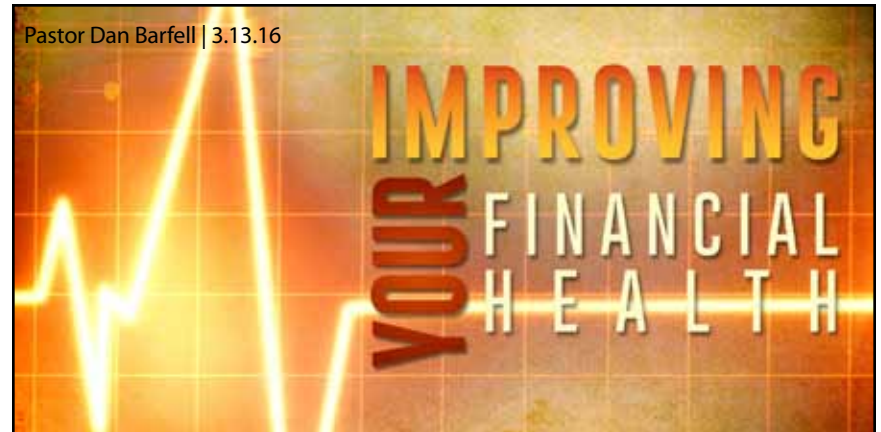
I am going to obey God by testing Him for 6 months.

- I understand God is the Owner and I am His manager.
- I will do my absolute best to manage His funds biblically.
- I am going to bring my whole tithe into the storehouse.

If after 6 months of faithfully stewarding God's resources, He has not "poured down a blessing until there is no more need", PHBC will reimburse every dollar you gave to the church during that time.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Return to the church office when ready to begin the Test.*



#### Introduction:

- A "Financial Health Check-Up" would reveal that most Americans are suffering from overspending, lack of saving, massive credit card debt and a host of other detrimental maladies.
- God's Word has a lot to say about how we handle money. Improving our financial health begins with:

**1. Understanding God is the \_\_\_\_\_ and we are the \_\_\_\_\_.**

*"For [the kingdom of heaven] will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and **entrusted to them his property**" (Matthew 25:14, emphasis added).*

**2. Learning how to manage the Owner's wealth**

*"He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more" (v. 16-17).*

**Three Resources to Help You Manage the Owner's Wealth in a Biblical Manner**

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- This morning, we will examine a third principle that is absolutely indispensable to improving our financial health.

### 3. Investing the Owner's Resources back into the \_\_\_\_\_.

"...you ought to have **invested my money** with the bankers, and at my coming **I should have received what was my own with interest**" (v. 27, emphasis added).

*"For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. 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?' Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you" (Malachi 3:6-9).*

**Not \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_ God  
= Under a \_\_\_\_\_.**

### What the Bible Says about Tithing:

1. Tithe means \_\_\_\_\_ or 10%.

2. Tithe \_\_\_\_\_.

*Every tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the LORD'S; it is holy to the LORD (Leviticus 27:30).*

3. Tithe is to always be given \_\_\_\_\_.

*Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty and your vats will be bursting with wine (Proverbs 3:9-10).*

4. Tithe, given first, \_\_\_\_\_ the rest of the 90%.

*If the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole lump, and if the root is holy, so are the branches (Romans 11:16).*

5. Tithe is to be given to the \_\_\_\_\_ (Malachi 3:10).

*Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse that there may be food in my house (Malachi 3:10).*

### Why Invest 10% of the Owner's Resources into His Assets (the Church)?

It is God's ordained way for \_\_\_\_\_ to:

1. Provide a \_\_\_\_\_ for the priests, their families, and other temple helpers who, in turn, are supposed to tithe (Numbers 18:21,24,26; I Corinthians 9:13-14).

2. Help care for the \_\_\_\_\_ in the community fairly and efficiently. This was perpetuated in the New Testament Church (Malachi 3:10; Acts 2:45; 6:1-4).

### Challenge:

Malachi 3:10-12

**Tithe = \_\_\_\_\_ to God = His \_\_\_\_\_.**