

WHY ARE THERE HOLES IN MY POCKETS?

By: Fountain Hendricks

(Malachi 3:6-12)

It is frustrating to make a competitive salary and not have enough money to take care of your needs. It is frustrating to make money while being victimized by unexpected expenses. This is **NOT** God's plan.

God does not want you to experience this level of frustration. However, He will **ALLOW** you to experience this level of frustration when you rob Him. **WHEN YOU ROB GOD, GOD WILL ALLOW OTHERS TO ROB YOU!**

I am not referring to violence. I am referring to theft. The reason there are holes in your pockets is because you have **NOT** put anything in God's hand. When you rob God of His **HONOR**, He will cut holes in your pockets.

WHY?

(Malachi 3:11)

Tithing is an important issue to God. It is one of the greatest acts of honor we can demonstrate. Tithing exposes the condition of your heart. Tithing reveals how selfless or how selfish you are.

Tithing reveals if you honor yourself more than God.
Tithing reveals if you trust your treasure more than God.
Tithing reveals if you are ruled by greed or generosity.

Tithing reveals if you honor the Kingdom of God or the World. Tithing reveals how you think about God. The reason tithing is one of the greatest acts of honor is because it **EXPOSES THE CONTENT OF YOUR CHARACTER.**

**TITHING IS BUILT ON THE HONOR
SYSTEM!**

God gives to you **FIRST**, testing to see if you would give it back to Him. Think about it. Doesn't God give you an opportunity to earn money **FIRST**? Doesn't God give you favor to make a sustainable income for yourself **FIRST**?

When God makes the first move He is **WATCHING** to see how you will make the second move. If God has blessed you with a job and you **DO NOT** Honor Him with ten percent of your income He will cut holes in your pockets. In other words, you will not be able to keep anything you have earned.

When you pay your tithes God will **STOP** the insects from eating your crops. He will also **PREVENT** your grapes from falling prematurely. In other words, God will **PROTECT** your finances from being devoured by the enemy.

Honoring God with ten percent of your income will make the other ninety percent holy. Here is a principle you need to remember about holiness.

THE ENEMY CANNOT TOUCH WHAT IS HOLY!

When God is not protecting your finances, the enemy will devour your finances. God **DOES NOT** bless robbers. He blesses honorable people. It does not matter how much you pray.

It does not matter how many times you attend church. If you do not honor God with your **FIRST** fruit you will always have holes in your pockets. **HONOR IS DEMONSTRATED, RESPECT IS VERBALIZED.** Proverbs 3:9 says, "*Honor the Lord with your wealth and the **FIRST** fruits from all your crops.*"

WISDOM KEYS TO REMEMBER

- God will **NOT** protect your finances if you **ROB** Him.

- The enemy **WILL** devour your money when you rob God of what is His.
- When you rob God your finances **WILL** be cursed. (Malachi 3:9)
- God will **NEVER** allow you to keep what **RIGHTFULLY** belongs to Him. *#tenpercent*
- You will **NEVER** progress financially when you are robbing the person who is responsible to prosper you.
- Tithing does not increase your money. Tithing **PROTECTS** the money you have earned from being devoured by the enemy.

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