# RETURN SOLVENIE

# Return to Me, Stop Robbing Me Malachi 3:6-12



<sup>6</sup>"For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.



<sup>7</sup>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?'



<sup>8</sup>Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions.



<sup>9</sup>You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you.



<sup>10</sup>Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.



<sup>11</sup>I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the LORD of hosts.



<sup>12</sup>Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the LORD of hosts.



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# 1: God is **Unchanging**Malachi 3:6



<sup>6</sup>"For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.



# James 1:17 (ESV)

<sup>17</sup>Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.



2: The People of God have <u>not changed</u>, they still wander away from God - Malachi 3:7



# Malachi 3:7 (ESV)

<sup>7</sup>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?'



3: God calls us to <u>return to Him</u> when we have wandered from His ways - Malachi 3:7



# Malachi 3:7 (ESV)

<sup>7</sup>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?'



<sup>4</sup>But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first.



<sup>5</sup>Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.



<sup>6</sup>Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.



<sup>7</sup>He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.'



4: Our giving back to God is part of our worship and is an acknowledgment that what we have is a blessing that comes from Him - Malachi 3:8



#### Matthew 22:37-38 (ESV)

<sup>37</sup>And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.



#### Matthew 22:37-38 (ESV)

<sup>38</sup>This is the great and first commandment.



#### Matthew 6:19-21 (ESV)

<sup>19</sup>"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal,



#### Matthew 6:19-21 (ESV)

<sup>20</sup>but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.



#### Matthew 6:19-21 (ESV)

<sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.



# 5: The New Testament has much to say about our giving back to God



\* We are to give willingly and cheerfully



#### 2 Corinthians 9:7 (ESV)

<sup>7</sup>Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.



\* We are to give regularly



#### 1 Corinthians 16:2 (ESV)

<sup>2</sup>On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come.



\* We are to give proportionately



#### 2 Corinthians 8:3 (ESV)

<sup>3</sup>For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord,



\* We are to give generously & sacraficially



# 1 Timothy 6:18 (ESV)

<sup>18</sup>They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share,



#### 2 Corinthians 8:2-3 (ESV)

<sup>2</sup>for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.



#### 2 Corinthians 8:2-3 (ESV)

<sup>3</sup>For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord,



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