

Liquid Money Sermon Series
Part 3 – The Flow
Malachi 3:6-12

Series Summary

Have you ever found yourself spending more than you make? Have you ever bought something with 12 months no interest and no money down only to find out that you couldn't make the payments after-all? Are you one of those people that have to much month at the end of their paycheck? If you answered yes to any of these questions then "Liquid Money" is a series that you will be able to relate to. In this series we will show how you can overcome burden of debt and free your finances up in order to use them more wisely. We will do this by bringing to light God's principles that He is asking each person to implement in their own lives in order to experience complete victory over bondage of debt.

Objective of Sermon

This sermon will challenge each person to think more critically about the importance and the necessity of the Biblical tithe in the life of the Christian. We will set out to understand the nature of the tithe in our modern day society and the ramifications of either giving the tithe to God or withholding the tithe thus committing a great sin against the Creator.

THE BIG IDEA

The Big Idea that we want people to walk away with is this: **REVERENCE**. The tithe is not about money or a percentage rather it is about respecting and revering God by choosing to put Him first in every area of our lives from our time to our talent to our treasure. This is a gift of the heart set upon the Lord in a unshakeable devotion to our Creator in the midst of a shaking and quaking world.

Brief Background (v. 6-7)

- *Society – Lacks the Fear of God*
- *God's People – Cease to Revere His Holy Name*
- *The Plea – Return to Me!*

Four Stages of Reclaiming the Reverence**Stage #1 – Recognize the Need for Restoration (v. 6-7)**

- **Matthew 6:21** – For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
- **Key Point** – We live our lives our own way. We covet and treasure the items God has given to us to survive. We breath God's air, we eat His food, we drive His cars, and we live in His house because we have convinced ourselves that it is all ours anyway. We have lived life our way and we still are not happy. We are in need of restoration and it begins with the heart!

Stage #2 – Diagnose the Disease

- **Lev. 27:30** – A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD.
- **Ezekiel 39:7** – I will make known my holy name among my people Israel. I will no longer let my holy name be profaned, and the nations will know that I the LORD am the Holy One in Israel.

- **Key Point** – There is a disease that has infected millions of Christians across the United States and it is important that it be treated before it is too late. It is a heart disease of the worst case. People are living their lives with hearts that are robbing God. We do not live as if God is truly Holy in our lives, we see our God as too small, and we lack the fear of God in our personal lives today. This is why people rob God.

Stage #3 – Implement an Invasive Plan

- **Mark 12:41-44**
- **Key Point** – The plan that God has chosen for His people is not one of sacrifice without gain rather it is sacrifice with and overabundance of gain. Many Christians need to implement an invasive plan in the most drastic way while others have already experienced living life in the midst of God's flow of provision. The plan is simple: ***Bring the Whole Tithe to God!***

Stage #4 – Experience the Flow

- **Matthew 6:20** – But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.
- **Key Point** – Here we discuss the difference between living two different lifestyles. Lifestyle #1 – Live life with 100% of our possessions but without God. Lifestyle #2 – Live with 90% of our possessions but with and in the presence of God. Which will bring you more happiness? Which will bring you more provision and blessings? Which will be the greater investment? God wants you to experience living life in the midst of His provision and blessings. He wants you to experience the Flow but ultimately the choice is yours.

Question to Consider

- How am I guarding and giving the Holy portion of my time, talent, and treasure unto the Lord? How can I do better?

Memory Verse

Malachi 3:6 – “I the LORD do not change. So you, O descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed.”

BIG Challenge

- Take the Plunge. Put out the fleece. Commit one whole month to testing God by giving Him your tithe and begin today.

Series Challenge

This week make a covenant with God that you will commit everything that you have to Him from your house to your health.