

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: February 16, 2020
Malachi 3:6-12

1. What does God say about himself in verse 6? I the _____ do not _____.
What, according verse 6 does it mean to us that God does not change? _____

2. Do you think that this is still something that he could say to His people today?
 - a. No, because He has clearly changed.
 - b. Yes, God never changes (Psalm 33:11, Isaiah 40:8, Hebrews 13:8).
 - c. This is so weird because I thought the Old Testament God was a God of wrath and the New Testament God is a God of grace.
3. What does he say about his people in verse 7? _____
Does this describe our history with God as well? Yes_____ No_____ Explain. _____

4. Has God given up on his people, according to verse 7? Yes_____ No_____ Explain.

5. What does God promise that he will do if they return to Him?
 - a. He will forgive them.
 - b. He will think about whether or not he can really let this go.
 - c. He will return to them.
6. What question do the Israelites ask God when he calls them to return, according to verse 7?

What is the answer? _____

7. What does God say, in verse 8, the Israelites are doing? _____

8. In what way have they robbed Him?
 - a. They held the church up at gunpoint.
 - b. They grabbed some of the offerings out of the plate as it passed by.
 - c. They have withheld their tithes and their offerings.
9. To answer the question posed in verse 7, then, how does God call his people to return to Him (see verse 10)? _____

10. How does God promise to return if his people return to him, according to verse 10? _____

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Date: February 23, 2020
Malachi 3:6-12

11. What was the “food” that was to be brought into the “storehouse” to be used for (See Deuteronomy 14:28-29 and Numbers 18:21)?
 - a. Ministry.
 - b. Caring for those that had no means of providing for themselves (widows, orphans, foreigners, those that minister before the Lord).
 - c. The people that have given up their right to work for an income (or inheritance) of their own in order to serve others.

12. What is the “storehouse”?
 - a. In Israel’s society there would be a storehouse that would be used for that very purpose.
 - b. Although there are many places that might use our gifts for similar purposes, very few distribute them specifically according to the will and instruction of God. Also, very few have the accountability of the local community of faith to make sure they are used for the purpose that God intends. The local church has all of this.

13. What does it mean to test God in the way that he tells us to in verse 10?
 - a. Give a little bit and see what happens before I give the whole tithe.
 - b. Step out in faith and begin to tithe trusting that God will take care of our needs.

14. What does he say that He will do if we test Him in this?
 - a. Make sure that we get by.
 - b. Throw open the floodgates of heaven...
 - c. Pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.
 - d. Prevent pests from devouring your crops.
 - e. Prevent the vines from dropping their fruit before its ripe.

15. Which sounds like more, 10% or open floodgates? _____
Which are you getting? _____

16. Have you ever felt like you could never get ahead financially? Yes_____ No_____
Give an example. _____
Were you tithing at the time? Yes_____ No_____ Explain. _____

17. When do you feel least able to tithe? _____
When do you most need God involved with your finances? _____

18. Will you commit to testing God in this? _____