

# MONEY MATTERS

## ECONOMY OF THE KINGDOM

MONEY MATTERS  
God must be First

**The Big Idea:** God's pain is to be doubted, God's pleasure is to be trusted. God wants you to experience breakthrough in your finances.

**Breakthrough:** *A sudden dramatic development or discovery. Overcoming an obstacle or achieving success, a victory. Going to the next level with God.*

### God's Principles of Breakthrough

#### *1. God Must be first.*

- There are more than 500 verses in the Bible concerning prayer and nearly 500 verses concerning faith, but more than 2,000 verses on the subject of money and possessions. Jesus talked about money in 16 of His 38 parables.
- Why? Money is a test from God.
- Sacrificed or Redeemed?

Consecrate to Me all the firstborn, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and beast; it is Mine.  
Exodus 13:2

That you shall set apart to the Lord all that open the womb, that is, every first born that comes from an animal which you have; the males shall be the Lord's. But every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb; and if you will not redeem it, then you shall break its neck. And all the firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem.  
Exodus 13:12-13

#### *2. Jesus was God's tithe.*

Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!  
John 1:29

- Here is the symbolic parallel: Jesus was God's firstborn, perfect, spotless, unblemished in every way. He was a pure a spotless lamb.
- God gave Jesus in faith before we ever believed.

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*God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

Romans 5:8

*That He (Jesus) might be the first born among many brethren.*

Romans 8:29

- We give our firstfruits offering - tithe - in the same way — in faith. Before we see the breakthrough, before the blessing, before God meets our needs. The principle of the firstfruits is very, very powerful.
- The first thing given is never lost, and any first thing not given is always lost.
- Jesus echoed this: For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will find it. Matthew 16:25
- Tithing is the primary way we acknowledge that God is first.

### *3. God deserves the first of the first.*

The first of the first fruits of your land you shall bring into the house of the Lord your God. Exodus 23:19

- The first belongs to God — the first of our time, the first of the week, the first of our talent, the first of our finances.

Malachi 3:6-11

*6 "I am the Lord, and I do not change. That is why you descendants of Jacob are not already destroyed. 7 Ever since the days of your ancestors, you have scorned my decrees and failed to obey them. Now return to me, and I will return to you," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies. "But you ask, 'How can we return when we have never gone away?' 8 "Should people cheat God? Yet you have cheated me! "But you ask, 'What do you mean? When did we ever cheat you?' "You have cheated me of the tithes and offerings due to me. 9 You are under a curse, for your whole nation has been cheating me. 10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies, "I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test! 11 Your crops will be abundant, for I will guard them from insects and disease.[a] Your grapes will not fall from the vine before they are ripe," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies.*

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## ECONOMY OF THE KINGDOM

- Tithing is saying: God, I'm going to give to You first and trust You to redeem the rest.

God is for you and not against you,  
He wants you to experience Breakthrough!

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