

ARE YOU LIVING...



THE BLESSED

*Life*

- **Genesis 1:28 (ESV)** —And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”
- Results of blessing: BE...
  - Fruitful: Producing good results
  - And Multiply: Cause to increase greatly
  - And Fill: Cause to become full
  - And Subdue: Overcome, quieten or bring under control
  - And Have Dominion: Sovereignty; supreme power or authority

Blessed: Bereka “*To bless in the OT means “to endue with power for success, prosperity, fecundity, longevity, etc” TWOT*

## Deuteronomy 28:1–13 (ESV)

**Deuteronomy 28:1–8 (ESV) — 1** “And if you faithfully obey the voice of the LORD your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. **2** And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the LORD your God. **3** Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field. **4** Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your cattle, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock. **5** Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. **6** Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out. **7** “The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before you. They shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways. **8** The LORD will command the blessing on you in your barns and in all that you undertake. And he will bless you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.



## Deuteronomy 28:3–13 (ESV) Cont'd

**9** The LORD will establish you as a people holy to himself, as he has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of the LORD your God and walk in his ways. **10** And all the peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they shall be afraid of you. **11** And the LORD will make you abound in prosperity, in the fruit of your womb and in the fruit of your livestock and in the fruit of your ground, within the land that the LORD swore to your fathers to give you. **12** The LORD will open to you his good treasury, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season and (the Lord) to bless all the work of your hands. And you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. **13** And the LORD will make you the head and not the tail, and you shall only go up and not down, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you today, being careful to do them,

## God's Blessing Included Money and Possessions

- **Deuteronomy 15:4–5 (NLT)** — 4 “There should be no poor among you, for the LORD your God will greatly bless you in the land he is giving you as a special possession. 5 You will receive this blessing if you are careful to obey all the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today.
- **Proverbs 10:22 (NLT)** — The blessing of the LORD makes a person rich, and he adds no sorrow with it.
- **Proverbs 8:21 (NLT)** — Those who love me inherit wealth. I will fill their treasuries.
- **Deuteronomy 8:18 (ESV)** — You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

# Tithing Releases Financial Blessing

**Malachi 3:6–12 (ESV) — 6** “For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. **7** 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?’ **8** Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, ‘How have we robbed you?’ In your tithes and contributions. **9** You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. **10** 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. **11** 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. **12** Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the LORD of hosts.



## The Power of “First”

- **Exodus 23:19 (ESV)** — “The best of the firstfruits of your ground you shall bring into the house of the LORD your God.
- **Deuteronomy 26:1–2 (ESV)** — **1** “When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, **2** you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there.
- **Proverbs 3:9–10 (ESV)** — **9** Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; **10** then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

# Giving Releases Abundant Harvest Financial Blessing

- **Proverbs 28:27 (NLT)** — Whoever gives to the poor will lack nothing, but those who close their eyes to poverty will be cursed.
- **Deuteronomy 15:7–11 (NLT)** — **7** “But if there are any poor Israelites in your towns when you arrive in the land the LORD your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tightfisted toward them. **8** Instead, be generous and lend them whatever they need. **9** Do not be mean-spirited and refuse someone a loan because the year for canceling debts is close at hand. If you refuse to make the loan and the needy person cries out to the LORD, you will be considered guilty of sin. **10** Give generously to the poor, not grudgingly, for the LORD your God will bless you in everything you do. **11** There will always be some in the land who are poor. That is why I am commanding you to share freely with the poor and with other Israelites in need.



## Giving Releases Financial Blessing

- **2 Corinthians 9:6–11 (NET)** — **6** My point is this: The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously. **7** Each one of you should give just as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, because God loves a cheerful giver. **8** And God is able to make all grace overflow to you so that because you have enough of everything in every way at all times, you will overflow in every good work. **9** Just as it is written, “He has scattered widely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness remains forever.” **10** Now God who provides seed for the sower and bread for food will provide and multiply your supply of seed and will cause the harvest of your righteousness to grow. **11** You will be enriched in every way so that you may be generous on every occasion, which is producing through us thanksgiving to God,...

## TITHING IS NEW TESTAMENT

- **Matthew 23:23 (NLT)** —What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but you ignore the more important aspects of the law—justice, mercy, and faith. *You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things.*
- **What are the more Important matters?** Tithing is a requirement but, in our tithing, do not think that we are released of the responsibility for our fellow man: the poor, the needy, the hungry, the naked, the orphans and the widows
  - *James 1:27 (TPT)* True spirituality that is pure in the eyes of our Father God is to make a difference in the lives of the orphans, and widows in their troubles, and to refuse to be corrupted by the world's values.