

WEEK 9

# GIVING

# OUR WISEST INVESTMENT...

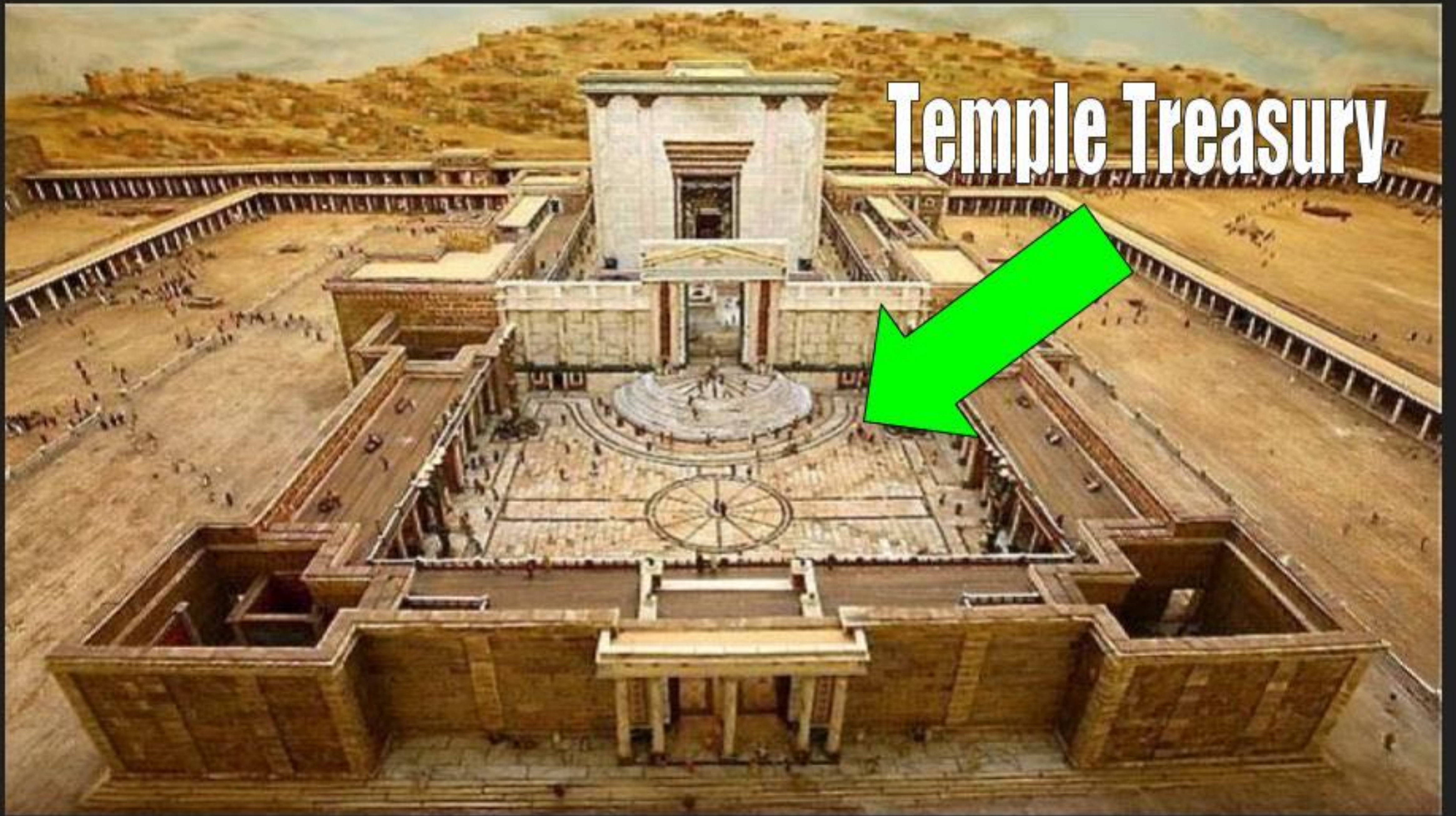
In the Old Testament, God established laws and principles around giving. People were required to give tithes (tenth) and offerings. This helped ensure provision for the Temple and Levitical Priests as they devoted their lives to serve God and communicating His Will to the people. In the New Testament, there was an amazing transition. Acts 2 accounts for early Christians giving whatever it took to advance the Kingdom here on earth. Giving is an essential part of any Christian life. It's the opportunity to take resources that God has blessed you with and use them to influence and change the world. Giving from God's people has always been a powerful force for what He was doing on earth. You reap what you sow.

God has always honored giving by multiplying the blessings in the life of the believer. What we receive from God is not just our own, but also so we can be His instruments on earth to bless others. When we do this, we open our lives for a supernatural outpouring of God's power and favor. Just as God gave everything through Christ, we as Christians have the opportunity to give from our own lives from what God has given to you.

# THE STOREHOUSE

**“WILL A MAN ROB GOD? YET YOU ARE ROBBING ME! BUT YOU SAY, ‘HOW HAVE WE ROBBED YOU?’ IN TITHES AND OFFERINGS. 9 YOU ARE CURSED WITH A CURSE, FOR YOU ARE ROBBING ME, THE WHOLE NATION OF YOU! 10 BRING THE WHOLE TITHE INTO THE STOREHOUSE (TEMPLE TREASURY), SO THAT THERE MAY BE FOOD IN MY HOUSE, AND TEST ME NOW IN THIS,” SAYS THE LORD OF HOSTS, “IF I WILL NOT OPEN FOR YOU THE WINDOWS OF HEAVEN AND POUR OUT FOR YOU A BLESSING UNTIL IT OVERFLOWS. 11 THEN I WILL REBUKE THE DEVOURER FOR YOU, SO THAT IT WILL NOT DESTROY THE FRUITS OF THE GROUND; NOR WILL YOUR VINE IN THE FIELD CAST *ITS GRAPES*,” SAYS THE LORD OF HOSTS. 12 “ALL THE NATIONS WILL CALL YOU BLESSED, FOR YOU SHALL BE A DELIGHTFUL LAND,” SAYS THE LORD OF HOSTS.**

## **MALACHI 3:8-12**



Temple Treasury

# WHAT THE OFFERINGS DID...

- **The offerings were stored in the temple for the priests.**
- **The priests took care of the temple maintenance and set up. This needed to be done because without it, the people could not enter into Gods presence or hear what God was doing.**
- **If the people did not give a tenth of their harvest, the priests would have to work themselves for their food, which would not make it possible for anyone to experience God.**

**GIVE, AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU. THEY WILL POUR INTO YOUR LAP A  
GOOD MEASURE—PRESSED DOWN, SHAKEN TOGETHER, *AND* RUNNING  
OVER. FOR BY YOUR STANDARD OF MEASURE IT WILL BE MEASURED TO  
YOU IN RETURN.”**

**LUKE 6:38**

**WHY GIVE?**



Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

**ACTS 2:43-47**

Now this / say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one *must do* just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-7**

# WHY GIVE TODAY?

- **God gives to you as you give to others. Sowing is vital to any Christian life.**
- **As long as there is a need or a mission for God, God expects us to fund it with the finances He gives us.**
- **The more that God gives us and we are faithful in our giving, the more God can trust us with.**
- **You are a vessel. Whatever God puts in you (or gives you) is expected to be released...so He can fill you again!**



# EXPECTATION

That you tithe into God's vision at Sound of Heaven.

## Review:

- 1- Why do you feel people are reluctant to give?
- 2- What holds you back from tithing?
- 3- What is the difference between OT and NT giving?
- 4- What's the purpose of giving?
- 5- What impact does it have on your life?



## Homework For Next Week

Name one thing you once believed,  
f that you no longer believe