Custom or Commandment?



What is your credit score?

Malachi 3

Jesus will come back to His Temple
Refiner's fire or a launderer's soap
The righteous will offer acceptable offerings.

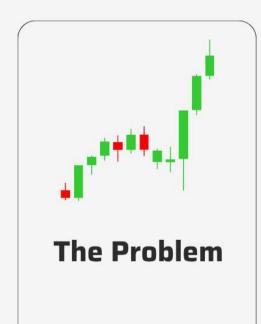
Put on trial the unworthy.

No shadow of turning

Israel's need for repentance

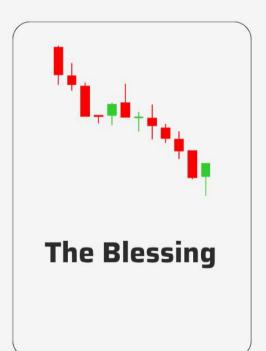
Stop robbing Me

Four Parts









MALACHI 3

⁶"I, the Lord do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed

MALACHI 3

⁷ Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says the Lord Almighty. "But you ask, 'How are we to return?'

MALACHI 3

*"Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?' "In tithes and offerings.

THE PROBLEM

⁹You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me.

VERSE 10

I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. ¹¹ I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe.

³Then the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai: ⁴ "Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?"

⁵ Now this is what the Lord Almighty says: "Give careful thought to your ways. ⁶ You have planted much, but harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it."

⁹ "You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why?" declares the Lord Almighty. "Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with your own house. ¹⁰ Therefore, because of you the heavens have withheld their dew and the earth its crops.

¹¹I called for a drought on the fields and the mountains, on the grain, the new wine, the olive oil and everything else the ground produces, on people and livestock, and on all the labor of your hands."

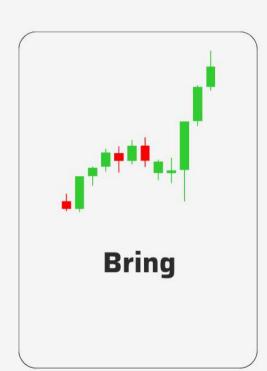
CUSTOM OR COMMANDMENT?





¹⁰ Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house.

Four Words









STEWARDSHIP

The Greek word from which we get our English word *economy*. In a literal sense, a steward is an **economist**, that is, a **manager**.



David Jeremiah

Stewards have nothing except that which has been given to them by the one for whom they labor. Therefore, it is incumbent upon stewards to use everything that has been entrusted to them in a way that pleases the owner. The steward's goals, priorities, and actions have to be in line with the priorities and goals of the owner. Stewards are not free agents working for themselves; their one purpose is to serve their master. Stewards have one guiding motivation: faithfulness.

1 CORINTHIANS 4:12

Moreover is required in stewards that one be found faithful

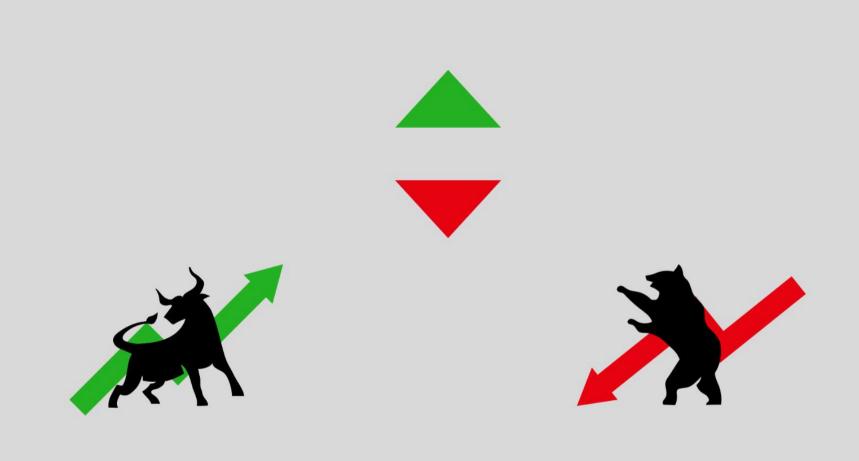
THE PROMISE

¹⁰Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

TEST ME IN THIS.



A good credit score is essential as it influences an individual's ability to obtain loans, secure housing, and qualify for lower insurance premiums. It is a key indicator of financial reliability to lenders, landlords, and insurers, impacting the terms and rates offered. Good credit also opens the door to better interest rates, more credit card options, and a higher chance of loan approvals.



THE BLESSING

¹¹I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe," says the Lord Almighty. ¹² "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the Lord Almighty.

MATTHEW 6:6

But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

MATTHEW 6:1 - 4

¹ "Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise, you have no reward from your Father in heaven. ² Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

MATTHEW 6:1 - 4

³ But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.

2 CORINTHIANS 9

⁶Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

2 CORINTHIANS 9

¹⁰ Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

2 CORINTHIANS 9

¹²This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. ¹³Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.



¹⁴ And in their prayers for you, their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you.

Custom or Commandment?



What is your credit score?

MATTHEW 16:19 - 21

¹⁹ "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Custom or Commandment?



What is your credit score?