

(1 Corinthians 10:13 NIV) No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

**THE TEMPTATION TO TRADE TRUST FOR SELF RELIANCE
IT'S ALL ABOUT HOW WE VIEW GOD**

(Mathew 4:1-11 NIV) Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. (2)After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. (3)The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." (4)Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" (5)Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. (6)"If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: 'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" (7)Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" (8)Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. (9)"All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." (10) Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" (11)Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

The **SELF-RELIANT** have a **COSMIC** view of God.

The **TRUSTING** have a **CARING** view of God.

(1 Peter 5:7 NKJV) casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

SAYING NO DEAL TO SELF RELIANCE AND DEAL TO TRUSTING GOD

(Mathew 4:1-4 NIV) Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. (2) After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. (3)The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." (4)Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" "

1. REMEMBER

God is **TRUSTWORTHY**

(Deuteronomy 8:2-3 NIV) Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the desert these forty years, to humble you and to test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. (3) He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your fathers had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

2. ROB not

(Deuteronomy 8:11-18 NIV) Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. (12) Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, (13) and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, (14) then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. (15) He led you through the vast and dreadful desert, that thirsty and waterless land, with its venomous snakes and scorpions. He brought you water out of hard rock. (16) He gave you manna to eat in the desert, something your fathers had never known, to humble and to test you so that in the end it might go well with you. (17) You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." (18) But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers, as it is today.

(Josh 7:3 NIV) When they returned to Joshua, they said, "Not all the people will have to go up against Ai. Send two or three thousand men to take it and do not weary all the people, for only a few men are there."

(Josh 7:1 NKJV) But the children of Israel committed a trespass regarding the accursed things, for Achan the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed things; so the anger of the LORD burned against the children of Israel.

(Josh 7:20-21 NKJV) And Achan answered Joshua and said, "Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and this is what I have done: When I saw among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them. And there they are, hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent, with the silver under it."

(Malachi 3:8-11a NKJV) "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. (9)You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation. (10) Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try 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 such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it. (11) "And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field," Says the LORD of hosts;

**WHY IS ROBBING GOD'S TITHE SUCH AN ISSUE WITH GOD?
BECAUSE...**

A. Bringing the TITHE protects us against the temptation to be SELF-RELIANT.

(Malachi 3:10 NKJV) Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this.

B. Bringing the TITHE is God's way of REDEEMING our lives from the PLAN of the tempter.

(Malachi 3:11a NKJV) And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes.

It Enables God to...

a. **REBUKE the tempter (devourer) for our sake.**

b. **OPEN heavens WINDOW for our sake.**

(Malachi 3:10 NKJV) Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try 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 such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.

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C. Bringing the TITHE makes us more LIKE God than at any other TIME.

(1 Corinthians 15:22-23 NIV) For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. (23)But each in his own turn: Christ, the **firstfruits**; then, when he comes, those who belong to him.

(Proverbs 3:9-10 NIV) Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; (10) then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

3. REST

(Mathew 4:11 NIV) Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Notes:

"BELIEVE, GROW, SERVE"

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