

Ron Armstrong • January 19 & 20, 2019

Face Value: Putting Principles in the Box

Malachi 3:8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

9 Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.

10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts.

James 4:15 Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." 16 As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil. 17 If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them.

A. Let's redraw our organizing equation.

1. Our organizing equation has five distinct concepts (boxes):

2. For most financial concepts, the Bible gives us three things to put in the box: principles, explanation of blessings, and WARNINGS.

B. How does a Christ-follower increase their earning ability? Let's put some stuff in the income box.

1. Pray for God's blessing. It's okay to pray for blessing if:

- a. Our MOTIVE is one God will bless.
- b. Our METHOD is one God will bless.
- c. We are being OBEDIENT to what God has said he will bless.
- d. HINT! Start here: Pay your tithe every paycheck; pray EVERYDAY for God to increase your income.

2. Live a life that ATTRACTS opportunities. People help people they love, people they trust, and people who are working to help themselves.

3. Always be preparing for multiple UNKNOWN futures. Choices are not an accident. They are prepared for. (When did Noah build the ark?)

4. Practice GRIE. Problems are not a biblical sign to quit unless the problem is the result of disobedience.

5. If you are blessed to be in the Venn diagram work nexus, don't leave unless you have to; it's a big blessing. If you must leave, prioritize the RENT.

6. Work until dark. Plan and prepare a career for SECOND adulthood. You may want a different career or you may need a different career.