

IF THE FOUNDATIONS BE DESTROYED—4

“Just How Do We Conduct Ourselves? —Part 2 Selected Passages

Introduction. _____

- IV. FOURTHLY, WE PROMISE TO **STRIVE** TO FELLOWSHIP WITH THE LORD JESUS AND GROW IN THE SPIRIT OF GOD THROUGH DILIGENCE IN SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES INCLUDING PRAYER, BIBLE STUDY, FAITHFUL CHURCH ATTENDANCE, AND PERSONAL WITNESSING. (Luke 18:1; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Ephesians 5:1-16; 1 Timothy 4:7-10; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22).
- A. First, notice how Paul relates spiritual disciplines to **running** (1 Corinthians 9:26a). “I therefore so run, not as uncertainty . . .”
- B. Secondly, note how Paul refers to spiritual disciplines as **boxing** (1 Corinthians 9:26b). “. . . so fight I, not as one that beateth the air.”
- V. FIFTHLY, WE PROMISE TO **STUDY** AND PRACTICE SEXUAL PURITY AND PROMOTE FAITHFULNESS WITHIN HETEROSEXUAL AND

MONOGAMOUS MARRIAGE (Romans 13:13-14; 1 Corinthians 6:18-20); 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4).

- VI. SIXTHLY, WE PROMISE TO **SUPPORT** THE ORDINANCES OF SCRIPTURE BY BEING IMMERSSED IN WATER FOLLOWING CONVERSION TO CHRIST, AND REMEMBERING AND CELEBRATING HIS ATONING SACRIFICE THROUGH THE LORD’S SUPPER (Matthew 18:19-20; Acts 2: 41-43; 8:36-39; Matthew 28:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-28).
- A. First, we support the ordinance of immersion in water following conversion to Christ as an act of **identification** (Matthew 28:19-20).
- B. Secondly, remember and celebrate Christ’s atoning sacrifice through the Lord’s Supper as an **examination** (Matthew 26:26-30; 1 Corinthians 11:23-28).
- VII. SEVENTHLY, WE PROMISE TO **SHARE** OUR INCOME BY TITHING TO MAINTAIN OUR CHURCH AND GIVE THROUGH A FAITH PROMISE OFFERING FOR WORLD EVANGELISM (Malachi 3:7-12; 1 Corinthians 16:1; 1 Corinthian 8-9; 1 Samuel 1:27-28).

This promise is divided into two divisions, namely:

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A. First, we promise the share our income by tithing to maintain our church (Malachi 3:7-12; 1 Corinthians 16:1).

Understanding that the tithe is something we RETURN to the Lord, then what is it?

1. First, notice how it is a definite proportion (3:10a) “Bring ye all the tithes . . .”
 - a. First, Abraham commenced it (Genesis 14:17-20).
 - b. Secondly, Jacob continued it (Genesis 28:22).
 - c. Thirdly, Moses commanded it (Leviticus 27:30).
 - d. Fourthly, Malachi confirmed it (Malachi 3:7-12).
 - e. Fifthly, Jesus commended it (Matthew 23:23).
 - f. Sixthly, Paul consolidated it (1 Corinthians 9:9; 16:2).
2. Secondly, note how it has a designated place (To bring it to) (3:10b). “. . . into the storehouse that there may be meat in my house . . .”
3. Thirdly, look at a _____ principle (3:10c) “. . . and prove me now herewith saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows

4.

of heaven and pour you a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.”

- a. First, this principle involves a _____. “. . . prove me now herewith . . .”
- b. Secondly, this principle includes a _____. “. . . I will open the windows of heaven and pour out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.”
- c. Thirdly, this principle incorporates a _____ or a rebuke. “And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes . . .”

B. Secondly, we promise to show our love for the Great Commission that we will give through a Faith Promise offering for World Evangelism (1 Corinthians 8—9; 1 Samuel 1:27-28).

Four basic principles define Faith Promise giving:

1. Principle #1—It involves requesting something from the Lord (1 Corinthians 8:3).
 - a. It means we are to ask particularly (1 Samuel 1:11a).
 - b. It means we are to ask purposefully (1 Samuel 1:12).

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- a. It means we are to ask *persistently* (1 Samuel 1:12).
1. Principle #2—It includes *relying* on the Lord for an answer (1 Samuel 1:17).
 - a. We must trust the Lord for the *money*
 - b. We must trust the Lord for the *means*
 - c. We must trust the Lord for the *measure* (specific amount).
2. Principle #3—It incorporates *receiving* an answer (1 Samuel 1:19-20).

The Lord answers our prayers, taking care of:

- The *supply* of our needs.
- The *sending* forth of laborers.
- The *salvation* of more souls.

3. Principle #4—It includes *returning* it to the Lord (1 Samuel 1:27-28).

How do we return what God has given us?

- a. First, we return it with *grace* (2 Corinthians 8:9).
- b. Secondly, we return it with *gladness* (2 Corinthians 9:7).
- c. Thirdly, we return it with *generosity* (2 Corinthians 9:6).

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CONCLUSION: How does enable a person to give through a FAITH PROMISE OFFERING?

1. He may increase our *supply*
2. He may decrease our *spending*
3. He will give us the wisdom to be a good *steward*
4. He will give us the GRACE to *sacrifice*
5. He may perform the *supernatural*