

Giving God Leftovers

12-30-18

In Malachi 1 we are told that Israel had returned to the land and was once more failing God. But this time it was not that they had turned to false idols; instead, they were failing God by offering to Him in worship unacceptable things. They were intent on meeting the letter of the law, but they were missing the heart of the law. By giving God “leftovers” they were robbing God. The principle here is one we need to consider today. Is God getting the leftovers in our lives?

Loyalty Leftovers?

Our loyalties are shown by priorities. Jesus said we cannot have two masters in Matthew 6:24. Instead, He commanded us to put the kingdom first (Matthew 6:33). He deserves our absolute loyalty. Simply consider who He Is (God), what He’s done (died for you), and what’s at stake (eternity). Isn’t that worth all of your loyalty?

Time Leftovers?

We often discuss time as the most important asset we have. We can spend it, waste it or save it. Ephesians 5:15-17 tells us to be careful with our time and to use it wisely. James 4:13-17 tells us not to assume we have as much as we want. God deserves the best of our time.

Money Leftovers?

Money is often central to our lives, whether we have it or not. But whose is it? 1 Corinthians 10:26 and James 1:17 tell us that our blessing came from God, and in a sense are God’s own. If someone gave you ten dollars, and asked for one of them back, what sort of person would you be to say no? Does God merely get the leftovers of your money?

Energy Leftovers?

There are many things that take up our energy. Work, recreation or other people often get a great deal of our energy. Are we giving God leftovers? Do we come to worship tired because we do too much? Are we missing important things for God because we don’t have the energy to do it? Don’t wear out your life and then deny God the best of your energy.

God deserves your best (Ephesians 4:15-16, Romans 12:4-13). Giving Him the best of your energy has great reward!