

Me My due (1 Sam. 2 : 29). In tithes and offerings; God's tenth was a sacred duty (Deut. 26 : 12, 13.) **Ye are cursed**; because of their neglect of religious duties.

**10-12. All the tithes** (Rev. Ver. "The whole tithe"); the whole of God's tenth. **Into the storehouse**; chambers in the

temple for holding the tithes (2 Chron. 31 : 11). **That there may be meat**. The tithes were used as food by the priests and Levites. **Open you the windows of heaven**. Drought had been sent as a punishment. **The devourer**; the locust that devoured the grass and the grain.

#### ASK YOURSELF

##### Juniors

**6-8.** Who had been dishonoring God? What sort of sacrifices had they offered?

**9-11.** What did the prophet advise? Whose fault that God was not gracious? What charge brought against them (v. 10)? Why would God not accept their offerings? What service will God accept? What propinquity in regard to the Gentiles?

**Ch. 3 : 8.** What question asked? How had it been done? What was the tithe? By whom claimed? (Lev. 27 : 30.)

**9-11.** How were they punished? Why? How had the land suffered? Where were they to take the tithe? What promise given? How great is God's mercy? What blessings follow obedience?

**12.** Whence does happiness come? (Phil. 4 : 6, 7; John 13 : 17.) What gift does God expect from us? Have we offered it?

##### Seniors

**6-8.** How can we best honor God? In what ways may we be guilty of the same in as the people?

**9-11.** How is God's name to be regarded? (Deut. 5 : 11; Ps. 111 : 9; 1 Tim. 6 : 1.) How should liberality be exercised? (Mat. 6 : 3; 1 Cor. 16 : 2; 2 Cor. 8 : 7.) What blessings connected with it? (Ps. 41 : 1; Acts 20 : 35.)

**Ch. 3 : 8.** What kind of giving does the Bible command? (2 Cor. 9 : 7.) Where in the Bible are the following nine reasons for liberality found? (a) The need of the poor. (b) The heart to give. (c) Example to others. (d) Influence. (e) Temporal rewards. (f) Spiritual rewards. (g) Glorifies God. (h) Affection of those aided. (i) Gratitude to God. Name three characteristics of true giving. (1 Cor. 16 : 1; 2 Cor. 9 : 5; 2 Cor. 9 : 6, 7.)

#### PRACTICAL

1. We should honor God as a son honors his father.

2. God will be pleased with only our best.

3. God has no pleasure in formal, empty worship. (v. 10; see John 4 : 24.)

4. Many, who would not think of robbing

another, think nothing of robbing God.

5. It is not because God needs that He wants us to give, but because we need to give; "for the heart grows rich in giving."

6. Put God to the test and see if He will not keep his promises.

#### FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. In what ways had the priests dishonored God?

2. What blessings were promised if the tithes were given in full?

3. What is the surest way to national prosperity?