

BIGGER than The Good Life

Week One

Blessed – having supernatural power working for you.

Cursed – having supernatural power working against you.

“The LORD will send a blessing on your barns and on everything you put your hand to. The LORD your God will bless you in the land he is giving you.” – Deuteronomy 28:8 (NIV)

Sacrificed or Redeemed:

“Consecrate to me every firstborn male. The first offspring of every womb among the Israelites belongs to me, whether man or animal.” – Exodus 13:2 (NIV)

“You are to give over to the LORD the first offspring of every womb. All the firstborn males of your livestock belong to the LORD. Redeem with a lamb every firstborn donkey, but if you do not redeem it, break its neck. Redeem every firstborn among your sons.” – Exodus 13:12-13 (NIV).

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” – Romans 5:8

The first portion is the redemptive portion... the rest redeemed.

The First of the First:

“Bring the best of the firstfruits of your soil to the house of the LORD your God.” – Exodus 23:19 (NIV)

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

“Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, ‘How do we rob you?’ In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse – the whole nation of you – because you are robbing me.” – Malachi 3:8-9

Respect for Abel:

“In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.” – Genesis 4:3-5

“A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD.” – Leviticus 27:30 (NIV)

“Now about the collection for God’s people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.” – 1 Corinthians 16:1-2 (NIV)

“In days to come, when your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ say to him, ‘With a mighty hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. When Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed every firstborn in Egypt, both man and animal. This is why I sacrifice to the LORD the first male offspring of every womb and redeem each of my firstborn sons.’” – Exodus 13:14-15 (NIV)

Tithing is Life, not Law

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” – Matthew 6:21

“In the one case, the tenth is collected by men who die; but in the other case, by him who is declared to be living.” – Hebrews 7:8 (NIV)

“and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God’s house, and of all that you give me I will give you a tenth.” – Genesis 28:22 (NIV)
