Armageddon, Earth's Final Battle



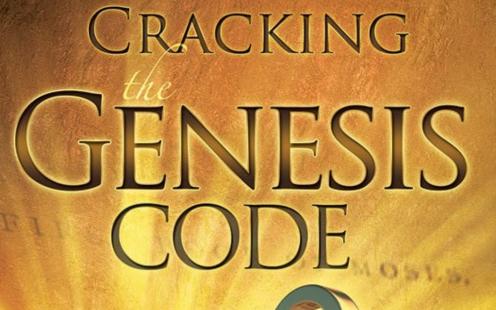
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SECRETS UNSEALED PRESENTS: "CRACKING THE GENESIS CODE"

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*Unless stated, All quoted verses are taken from the "New King James Version" (NKJV).

Genesis 1:1	Leviticus 27:30	Luke 6:38
Psalm 24:1	Genesis 14:18-20	Luke 19:8
I Corinthians 10:26	Genesis 28:22	Mark 12:41-44
Psalm 95:5	Numbers 18:20, 21, 31	II Corinthians 8:9
Psalm 50:10-12	"Numbers 18:26	1 Timothy 6:9, 10
Haggai 2:8	Malachi 3:8	Luke 12:15-21
1 Corinthians 6:19, 20	Malachi 3:10	Matthew 16:26
I Timothy 6:7	Matthew 23:23	Ezekiel 7:19
Deuteronomy 8:-18	I Corinthians 9:13, 14	Matthew 19:22
I Chronicles 29:14-17	Genesis 1:28	Matthew 6:19, 20
Genesis 1:28	Genesis 3:14, 17; 4:11	
Genesis 2:15	Malachi 3:9, 10	
1 Corinthians 4:2	Genesis 39:1-9	
Matthew 25:27	I Kings 17:8-15	
Matthew 21:34	Acts 20:35	
Luke 16:2	John 3:16, 17	
Genesis 2:16, 17	Matthew 20:28	

5. According to Ezekiel 7:19, what will the lost do with their gold and silver when Jesus comes?

"They will ______, and their gold will be like refuse; their silver and their gold will not be able to _______ them in the day of the wrath of the LORD; they will not satisfy their souls, nor fill their stomachs, because it became their ______ block of iniquity."

6. What did the rich young ruler do when Jesus told him to sell all that he had and give it to the poor?

"But when the young man heard that saying, he went away ______, for he had great ______." (Matthew 19:22)

7. What did Jesus advise His followers to do?

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on ______, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:19-21)

"Armageddon, Earth's Fínal battle" Lecture [#]30

Jesus Christ had many important things to say during His public ministry on earth. But there is no subject He touched upon more frequently than money. Time and again in His parables and in his contacts with individuals He spoke about the importance of money and its potential for blessing or ruin.

Today we live in a materialistic society where the love of money has become an all absorbing obsession. Corporate and individual greed seem to be the rule of the day. This should lead us to ask: is the accumulation of wealth the measure of success in life? Does the book of Genesis have anything to say about the proper use of our material resources? The answer is yes. Let's begin by examining four principles which are found in Genesis one and two as well as in other places of the Bible.

Principle #1: God is the Owner of All

- According to Genesis 1:1, who created all things?
 "In the beginning ______ created the heavens and the earth."
- 2. To whom does the world and everything in it belong? "The earth is the _____, and all its fullness, the _____ and those who dwell therein." (Psalm 24:1)
- 3. To whom do the seas and the dry land belong?

"The sea is	, for He	it; and His hands
formed the dry land	d." (Psalm 95:5)	

4. To whom do the beasts of the field and the birds of the air belong?
"For every beast of the forest is ______ and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the mountains, and the wild beasts

of the field are _____. If I were hungry, I would not tell you; for the world is ______, and all its fullness." (Psalm 50:10-12)

5. To whom do the gold and the silver belong?

"The silver is _____, and the gold is _____, says the LORD of hosts." (Haggai 2:8)

6. To whom do our bodies belong?

"Or do you not know that your body is the ______ of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are ______ your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are ______." (I Corinthians 6:19-20)

7. How much of what we have do we bring into or take out of the world? "For we brought ________ into this world, and it is certain we can carry _______ out." (I Timothy 6:7)

8. What great truth did God teach Israel before they entered the Promised Land?

"And you shall ______ the LORD your God, for it is _____

who gives you ______ to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day." (Deuteronomy 8:18)

9. Technically speaking, is it really possible to give anything to God?

"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly as this? For all things ______ from You and of Your ______ we have given You... O LORD our God, all this abundance that we have prepared to build You a house for Your holy name is from ______, and is all ______

"But those who ______ to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which ______ men in destruction and perdition. For the ______ of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have ______ from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." (I Timothy 6:9-10)

- 3. Read the parable in Luke 12:15-21 and then answer the following questions:
 - ♥ What was the predominant pronoun in the rich man's vocabulary?
 - ♦ What was the rich man saving for?
 - ♥ What should the rich man have done instead of building bigger barns?

♥ What was the central lesson which Jesus sought to teach through this parable?

4. How valuable are the things of this earth compared with our eternal reward?

"For what is a	man profited if he gains the whole	, and loses
his own	? Or what will a man give in	for his
soul?" (Matth	ew 16:26)	

shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with

the _____ measure that you use, it will be measured

_____ to you." (Luke 6:38)

5. How did Zacchaeus' attitude toward money change when he was converted to Jesus?

"Look, Lord, I give ______ of my goods to the _____; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore ______." (Luke 19:8)

6. How does the story of the widow's mites illustrate the lesson of sacrificial giving?

7. What was Jesus willing to give up that we might become rich?
"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was ______, yet for your sakes He became ______, that you through His poverty might become rich." (II Corinthians 8:9)

A Matter of Life and Death

1. In II Timothy 3:1-5, the apostle Paul provides a catalogue of sins which will characterize the world in the last days. Which is the second sin on the list?

"... lovers of _____..."

2. What does the apostle Paul have to say about the potential dangers of money?

own." (I Chronicles 29:14-17)

Principle #2 We Are God's Administrators

1. What responsibility did God delegate to Adam and Eve when they were created?

"Then God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and _______ it; have ______ over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." (Genesis 1:28)

- What is the most important character trait of a good administrator?
 "Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found _____."
 (I Corinthians 4:2)
- 4. What must a good administrator do with the owner's assets? "Therefore you ought to have deposited ______ money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received ______ my own with _____." (Matthew 25:27; see also 21:34)
- 5. Will an administer be required to render an account to the owner some day?

"So he [the owner]	him [the administrator] a	and said to
him, 'What is this I hear about you?	? Give an	of your
stewardship, for you can no longer	be steward."" (Luke 16:2)

Principle #3 Respect God's Reserved Portion

2. What portion of our money has God reserved for Himself?

"And all the ______ of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD's. It is ______ to the LORD." (Leviticus 17:30)

3. Where do we find the first Biblical reference to tithing?

"And he [Melchizedek] _____ him [Abram] and said: 'Blessed be Abram of God Most High, _____ of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand.' And he gave him a _____ of all." (Genesis 14:19-20)

NOTE: This event takes place about five hundred years before Moses. The remark about tithing appears in a casual way with no explanation thus indicating that it was a customary and habitual practice. Abraham gave the tithe to the priest (as would later happen in the Israelite culture) and the tithe was calculated on the basis of all that Abraham recovered for the king of Salem. Abraham's motivation for tithing is important. First of all, he returned it in recognition of the fact that God is the possessor of heaven and earth. Secondly, he tithed because God had delivered him from his enemies.

4. What other example do we find of tithing in the book of Genesis?

"Then Jacob made a ______, saying, 'If God will be with me and keep me in this way that I am going, and give me bread to eat and

______to put on, so that I come back to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God. And this stone which I have set as a pillar shall be God's ______, and of all that You give me I

Principle #4:

Love, Giving, and Service

1. According to the apostle Paul, what fundamental principle did Jesus teach while He was on earth?

"I have shown you in every way, by labouring like this, that you must support the ______. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to ______ than to _____." (Acts 20:35)

2. What relationship exists between love and giving?

"For God so ______ the world that He ______ His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

3. What great principle characterized the life of Jesus?

"And whoever desires to be ______ among you, let him be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to ______, and to ______ His life a ransom for many." (Matthew 20:28)

4. How did Jesus express the relationship between how much we give and how much we receive?

_____, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down,

NOTE: When Israel entered the land of Canaan, every tribe except Levi received a portion of the land. The tribe of Levi served the spiritual needs of the congregation full time in the Temple and the congregation, in turn, was to support the priests by returning the tithe. It is vitally important to realize that the congregation returned the tithe to the Lord and the Lord then paid the priests. In our utilitarian society we usually pay for benefits received. This is the American way, basic capitalism. But in God's order, consumerism is off base. We do not tithe because the pastor is serving our needs but because it belongs to the Lord as a matter of principle. Even if we receive no benefits, we should tithe simply because God says so.

6. Were the Levites also required to return the tithe to the Lord?

will surely give a to You." (Genesis 28:20-22)

5.

For what specific purpose did God establish the tithing system?

"Then the LORD said to Aaron: 'You shall have no in

their land, nor shall you have any portion among them; I am your portion and your inheritance among the children of Israel. Behold, I have given

the children of Levi all the in Israel as an inheritance in return for the which they perform, the work of the

tabernacle of meeting."" (Numbers 18:20-21)

"Speak thus to the Levites	, and say to them: 'When you take from the
children of Israel the	which I have given you from them as
your inheritance, then you	shall offer up a heave offering of it to the
LORD, a	of the tithe."" (Numbers 18:26)

Of what grave sin were the children of Israel guilty in the days of the 7. prophet Malachi?

"Will a man	God? Yet you have	Me!
But you say, 'In wh	at way have we robbed You?' 'In	
and offering'." (Ma	llachi 3:8)	

NOTE: Remarkably, Malachi was encouraging the people to tithe in spite of the fact that the priests despised the name of the LORD (1:6), they were neglecting to teach the people the law of God (2:7-8), and they were offering maimed animals in the temple service (Malachi 1:13, 14).

Joseph and a Penniless Widow

1. Think it Through: How were these four principles of stewardship illustrated in the work of Joseph in Potiphar's house? (Study Genesis 39:1-9)

Principle #1:

Principle #2:

Principle #3:

Principle #4:

2. Study the story of the widow of Zarephath in I Kings 17:8-15. How does this story illustrate the four principles that we have been studying?

Principle #1:

Principle #2:

8. What did the LORD command Israel to do with their tithes?

"Bring _______ the tithes into the ______, that there may be food in My house..." (Malachi 3:10)

9. Did Jesus recognize the permanence of the tithing principle in His Day?

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay ______ of mint and anise and cumin, and have neglected the ______ matters of the law: Justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have ______, without leaving the others ______." (Matthew 23:23)

10. Food for thought: Read I Corinthians 9:1-14. What five arguments (three from daily life and two from the Old Testament scriptures) does the apostle Paul employ to prove that the tithing principle was still binding in his day? According to Paul, what must the tithe be used for?

1. _____

NOTE: What is meant by the storehouse? There was a special area of the temple where the tithes of the congregation were to be stored. These tithes, in turn, were then disbursed among the Levites for their material sustenance. The ancient temple is equivalent today to the church and the priests are equivalent to the preachers of the gospel (Ephesians 2:20-22).

Principles #4: Obedience Brings a Blessing, Disobedience a Curse

1. What did God pronounce upon Adam and Eve when He created them?

"Then God ______ them, and God said to them, 'Be

_____ and multiply; _____ the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." (Genesis 1:28)

2. What happened when Adam and Eve partook of that which belonged exclusively to God?

"So the LORD God said to the serpent: 'Because you have done this, you are ______ more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field... [God said to Adam]: '______ is the ground for your sake; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life... [God said to Cain]: 'So now you are ______ from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand."" (Genesis 3:14, 17; 4:11)

3. What will God say to Israel because of their unfaithfulness in returning the tithe? What did He say would happen if they chose to be faithful?

"You are	with a curse, for	_ with a curse, for you have robbed,	
even this whole n	ation. Bring	tithes i	nto the
storehouse that th	ere may be food in My h	ouse, and prove Me no	w in this,
says the LORD o	f hosts, if I will not open	for you the	of
heaven and pour	out for you such	that there will r	not be
room enough to r	eceive it." (Malachi 3:9-	10)	