

The Blessed Life by Robert Morris



2 Corinthians 8:1-5 (NLT)



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Now I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, what God in his kindness has done through the churches in Macedonia. They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity.

For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford, but far more. And they did it of their own free will. They begged us again and again for the privilege of sharing in the gift for the believers in Jerusalem. They even did more than we had hoped, for their first action was to give themselves to the Lord and to us, just as God wanted them to do.



Truth 1:

Your treasure reveals your heart.



Matthew 6:19-21 (ESV)

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, 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.

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Truth 1:

Your treasure reveals your heart.

Truth 2:

God becomes <u>first</u> when you give God your <u>firsts</u>.



The Principle of the Firstfruits.



Exodus 23:19 (NLT) "As you harvest your crops, bring the very best of the first harvest to the house of the Lord your God.



Exodus 13:2 (NLT)

"Dedicate to me every firstborn among the Israelites. The first offspring to be born, of both humans and animals, belongs to me."



Exodus 13:11-13 (NLT)

"This is what you must do when the Lord fulfills the promise he swore to you and to your ancestors. When he gives you the land where the Canaanites now live, you must present all firstborn sons and firstborn male animals to the Lord, for they belong to

A firstborn donkey may be bought back (redeemed) from the Lord by presenting a lamb or young goat in its place. But if you do not buy it back (redeem), you must break its neck. However, you must buy back (redeem) every firstborn son.



John 1:29 (NLT)

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!



John 3:16

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.



Truth 2:

God becomes <u>first</u> when you give God your <u>firsts</u>.

1. Requires faith.



Hebrews 11:6 (NLT)

And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

Proverbs 3:9-10 (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.



1. Requires faith.

2. Reveals your heart.



Genesis 4:3-5 (NLT)

When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the Lord. Abel also brought a gift—the best portions of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The Lord accepted Abel and his gift, but he did not accept Cain and his gift.



Psalm 139:1 (NLT)

O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me.

Psalm 86:12 (NLT)

With all my heart I will praise you, O Lord my God. I will give glory to your name forever,



2. Reveals your heart.

3. Reproduces a godly legacy.



Exodus 13:14 (NLT)

"And in the future, your children will ask you, 'What does all this mean?' Then you will tell them, 'With the power of his mighty hand, the Lord brought us out of Egypt, the place of our slavery.

