

**Gen. 14:17-20** After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High.

He blessed him and said,

“Blessed be Abram by God Most High,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
and blessed be God Most High,  
who has delivered your enemies into your  
hand!”

And Abram gave him one tenth of everything.

**Gen. 28:15-22** Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!” So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

**Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, so that I come again to my father’s house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God, and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God’s house; and of all that you give me I will surely give one tenth to you.**

**Mal. 3:8-10.** Will anyone rob God? Yet you are robbing me! But you say, “How are we robbing you?” In your tithes and offerings! You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me—the whole nation of you! Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.

**Jer. 31:33** I will put my law within them,  
and I will write it on their hearts; and I  
will be their God, and they shall be my  
people.

**Ezek. 36:26** I will give you a new heart  
and put a new spirit in you; I will  
remove from you your heart of stone  
and give you a heart of flesh.

**Gal. 5:18** But if you are led by the Spirit,  
you are not subject to the law.

## 1. *Follow Christ's Example*

**2Cor. 8:9** For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.

## 2. *Give Voluntary and Joyful*

**2Cor. 9:7** Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

### 3. *Be Disciplined*

**1Cor. 16:2** 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.

### 4. *Give According to Your Means*

**2Cor. 8:12** For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have.

## 5. *See Giving as a Privilege*

**2 Cor. 8:3.** The Macedonians “begged [Paul] earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints...”

## 6. *Give With a Concern for Justice*

**2 Cor. 8:13-14.** I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between your present abundance and their need...

## 7. *Give With Expectation*

**2Cor. 9:6, 8, 11.** The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.... You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us...