

RUSSELL SANDERS
6-4-2024
HONOR THE LORD

Proverbs 3:9 says, ***“Honor the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase.”***

Substance means everything temporal that we have. Firstfruits means the very first portion of whatever comes into our possession, whether it may be money, goods, or anything else.

All substance in our possession belongs to God, as He is the originator [creator] of it and allows us to have it. We are the stewards [caretakers] of it. We often think that we “own” it, but we are just stewards to whom God entrusted it to us. You might say, “But I worked hard for it. I bought it with my own money.” But if it were not for God, you would not have had the work or the money because He blessed you with it.

We are to give back to him the ***“firstfruits”*** of everything which comes into our possession. Yes, this speaks also about our tithing. One-tenth of our increase [whatever we gain or receive] is our firstfruits that goes back to God that owns it all. This is how we honor God with our substance and firstfruits.

What is the opposite of honor? Is it dishonor? Do we dishonor God when we do not give the firstfruits [tithe] into his works?

I would not desire to dishonor my maker. He is the source of my blessings and my provisions and my peace and my eternal life. I do not desire to invite his chastisement upon me for dishonoring him. He is my everything. I owe everything to God, so I honor him with my substance and firstfruits.

Praise his holy name.