

2 Things Help Identify Our DRIFT:**The Right QUESTION.****The NAME Of The Lord Our God.****This Is Especially True About Our GIVING.**

Malachi 1:6-14 (NLT) The LORD of Heaven's Armies says to the priests: "A son honors his father, and a servant respects his master. If I am your father and master, where are the honor and respect I deserve? You have shown contempt for **my name**! "But you ask, 'How have we ever shown contempt for **your name**?' "7 "You have shown contempt by offering defiled sacrifices on my altar. "Then you ask, 'How have we defiled the sacrifices?' "You defile them by saying the altar of the LORD deserves no respect. "8 When you give blind animals as sacrifices, isn't that wrong? And isn't it wrong to offer animals that are crippled and diseased? Try giving gifts like that to your governor, and see how pleased he is!" says the LORD of Heaven's Armies. "9 "Go ahead, beg God to be merciful to you! But when you bring that kind of offering, why should he show you any favor at all?" asks the LORD of Heaven's Armies. "10 "How I wish one of you would shut the Temple doors so that these worthless sacrifices could not be offered! I am not pleased with you," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies, "and I will not accept your offerings. "11 But **my name** is honored by people of other nations from morning till night. All around the world they offer sweet incense and pure offerings in honor of **my name**. For **my name** is great among the nations," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies. "12 "But you dishonor **my name** with your actions. By bringing contemptible food, you are saying it's all right to defile the Lord's table. "13 You say, 'It's too hard to serve the LORD,' and you turn up your noses at my commands," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies. "Think of it! Animals that are stolen and crippled and sick are being presented as offerings! Should I accept from you such offerings as these?" asks the LORD. "14 "Cursed is the cheat who promises to give a fine ram from his flock but then sacrifices a defective one to the Lord. For I am a great king," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies, "and **my name** is feared among the nations!

Does Your Giving Clearly Reflect What You Say You Believe About The NAME OF THE LORD OUR GOD?

Who Gets Your BEST?

When You Worship God Do You Expect To RECEIVE Without Committing To Give?

Do You DISOBEY GOD In Giving Because It Seems Too Hard?

Have You Made A COMMITMENT To God And DRIFTED away from it ?

Malachi 3:8-10;13-18 (NLT) "Should people cheat God? Yet you have cheated me! "But you ask, 'What do you mean? When did we ever cheat you?' "You have cheated me of the tithes and offerings due to me. "9 You are under a curse, for your whole nation has been cheating me. "10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies, "I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test! . . . "13 "You have said terrible things about me," says the LORD. "But you say, 'What do you mean? What have we said against you?' "14 "You have said, 'What's the use of serving God? What have we gained by obeying his commands or by trying to show the LORD of Heaven's Armies that we are sorry for our sins?' "15 From now on we will call the arrogant blessed. For those who do evil get rich, and those who dare God to punish them suffer no harm." "16 Then those who feared the LORD spoke with each other, and the LORD listened to what they said. In his presence, a scroll of remembrance was written to record the names of those who feared him and always thought about the honor of **his name**. "17 "They will be my people," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies. "On the day when I act in judgment, they will be my own special treasure. I will spare them as a father spares an obedient child. "18 Then you will again see the difference between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not."

How Do You Justify CHEATING God?

Does What You Give Demonstrate That You Value What

Is ETERNAL More Than What Is Temporary?

Will You Start By Giving YOURSELF ?